

Hand Delivered

December 21, 2018

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re: Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis Objections

Regional Forester Schmid:

The Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) and the Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) object to the October 2018 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and the draft Record of Decision (Draft ROD) for the Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis (POW LLA). Earl Stewart, the Tongass Forest Supervisor is the responsible official for the Draft ROD and FEIS for the POW LLA Project. These objections supplement the more extensive objections submitted by Earthjustice on behalf of SEACC and others on December 21, 2018. Based on the corrected legal notice published in the Ketchikan Daily News on November 16, 2018, these objections are timely.

SEACC and ACAT submitted timely, specific, and substantive comments regarding the proposed project on the draft EIS for this project on June 18, 2018. We submitted those comments via both email and direct mail. For purposes of 36 C.F.R. § 218.8(d)(1), the objecting parties may be reached via the SEACC contact information indicated in the signature block. For purposes of 36 C.F.R. § 218.8(d)(3), SEACC is the lead objector.

I. POW LLA PROJECT'S CONDITION-BASED PLANNING APPROACH VIOLATES NEPA.

The Draft ROD proposes to authorize a wide array of site-specific activities over the next 15 years under the umbrella of this FEIS, including old-growth logging, new road construction, and management of invasive plants with herbicides.¹ It tries to do so, however, without providing agency decision-makers and the public with the detailed, site-specific analysis

¹See POW LLA FEIS, Summary, at S-1 and S-2.

necessary to make reasoned choices among proposed action alternatives. Instead of deferring final decisions regarding specific activities until after the agency discloses and evaluates the precise timing, size, and location of the proposed activity, including the selection of appropriate design components or mitigation measures, the Forest Supervisor prematurely selected Alternative 2 in full. Although the agency has provided the public with an opportunity to object to the Draft ROD, it fails to provide the public with the opportunity to object after the Line Officer's response to public comment at the completion of Stage 4, following the agency initial disclosure to the public of precise activity-specific details.

While the Selected Alternative remains subject to requirements within the Activity Cards (Appendix 1 to the Draft ROD) and processes described in the Implementation Plan (Appendix 2 to the Draft ROD), these subsequent actions and processes occur after the agency has made a go-no-go decision.² This is precisely the type of environmentally blind decision-making Congress intended NEPA to avoid.³

For purposes of this objection, SEACC and ACAT focus on the problems presented by using this "large landscape-scale analysis" approach to address the environmental consequences from carrying out approved invasive plant management treatments. The Forest Supervisor explains in the Draft ROD that he modified Alternative 2 "to incorporate the use of herbicide treatments on invasive plant populations (as described in Alternative 3 of the FEIS to keep the infestation of noxious and invasive weeds on NFS lands to a minimum in accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13112 (1999))."⁴ Such "[h]erbicide use will be planned by prioritizing infestations based on species and size, following project design feature implementation, adhering to herbicide label requirements, the Pesticide Use Proposal process, and permitting and/or regulatory processes (all built into a site-specific Weed Management Plan)."⁵ "A comprehensive planning process prior to

² See Draft ROD at 1, 2.

³ See *Conner v. Burford*, 848 F.2d 1441, 1451 (9th Cir. 1988); see also *Robertson v. Methow Valley Citizens Council*, 490 U.S. 332, 349 (1989) (NEPA's action-forcing procedures "ensure[] that important effects will not be overlooked or underestimated only to be discovered after resources have been committed or the die otherwise cast.") (emphasis added, citations omitted).

⁴ Draft ROD at 5.

⁵ *Id.* at 1.

treatment, which includes site-specific design features for each resource, will further mitigate risks.⁶

These conclusions are arbitrary because the Forest Supervisor offers an explanation that runs counter to the evidence presented in the FEIS."⁷ As noted there, "[u]ndeveloped lands in the project area have relatively few Invasive plant infestations."⁸ "Roads are conduits for the spread of weeds, facilitating their rapid transport and dispersal."⁹ "[I]nvasive species generally do not occur within old growth forest but rather on the edges of this habitat. Disturbance of the old-growth and young-growth forest habitats can introduce invasive plants into the bare mineral soil exposed during logging operations."¹⁰ "Timber harvest, road building, and other ground-disturbing activities contribute to the spread of weeds." Consequently, the more acres disturbed by proposed activities, "the greater risk of the spread or introduction of invasive plants."¹¹

II. FOREST SERVICE VIOLATED NEPA BY FAILING TO DISCLOSE AND EVALUATE RESPONSIBLE OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS.

In response to the Draft Statement of Issues and Alternatives released for this project, Earthjustice submitted comments on behalf of SEACC and others that specifically noted "[t]he scope of potential impacts from the use of herbicides is particularly significant on Prince of Wales and surrounding islands due to the high solubility of karst landscapes." *See* PR# 833-0175 at 4. Given the paucity of site-specific information and analysis in the DEIS regarding this significant issue, SEACC and ACAT raised concerns about the evaluation's adequacy as to the full scope of potential impacts from the use of herbicides for invasive plant management.¹² We

⁶ Draft ROD at 7.

⁷ *Id.* at 43.

⁸ FEIS at 3-248.

⁹ *Id.* at 3-249.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 3-251.

¹¹ *Id.* at 3-352.

¹² *See* PR# 833_1634 at 7.

also submitted responsible opposing viewpoints on this significant issue from Thomas J. Aley, President of the Ozark Underground Laboratory in Missouri.¹³

The Forest Service violated NEPA by failing to disclose and analyze these responsible opposing scientific viewpoints in the FEIS as required by regulations issued by the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ).¹⁴ Federal courts give substantial deference to and strictly interpret CEQ regulations "to the fullest extent possible."¹⁵ NEPA's "'action-forcing' procedures ... require the Forest Service to take a 'hard look' at environmental consequences,"¹⁶ *before* the agency approves an action. "By so focusing agency attention, NEPA ensures that the agency will not act on incomplete information, only to regret its decision after it is too late to correct."¹⁷ CEQ regulations also obligate the Forest Service to respond to arguments presented to the agency in response to public comment on the DEIS. *See* 40 C.F.R. § 1503.4(a).

The objectors found no clear evidence in the agency's response to our comments, the FEIS, or supporting resource reports, that the agency took a hard look at the synergies between the effects of spraying pesticides on highly soluble karst topography and potential contamination of groundwater and aquatic resources. None of the resource reports for aquatics, hydrology, or

¹³ Mr. Aley's work includes a number of groundwater tracing investigations on Prince of Wales, Tuxekan, Heceta, Kosciusko, and Chichagof Islands in Southeast Alaska. In 1993, Mr. Aley prepared the *Karst and Cave Resource Significance Assessment*, for the Ketchikan Area, Tongass National Forest, Alaska. *See* POW LLA Planning Record (PR# 833-0610). Mr. Aley also participated in the initial development of karst vulnerability standards for the Tongass National Forest, as well as a 2002 review of the standards and their implementation. *See* PR, # 833-0611 (*Final Report of the Karst Review Panel* (Dec. 2002)). Mr. Aley was one of the authors of the *Water Tracer's Handbook* (1976). These dye tracing methods were adopted for *Delineation of a Karst Watershed on Prince of Wales Island, Southeast Alaska* (2007) (PR# 833_0612).

¹⁴ *See* 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(b).

¹⁵ *Marsh v. Or. Natural Res. Council*, 490 U.S. 360, 372 (1989) (internal citations omitted); *Cal. v. Block*, 690 F.2d 753, 770-71 (1982) ("NEPA's public comment procedures are at the heart of the NEPA review process [and] reflects the paramount Congressional desire to internalize opposing viewpoints into the decisionmaking process to ensure that an agency is cognizant of all the environmental trade-offs that are implicit in a decision.") (supporting citations omitted).

¹⁶ *Metcalf v. Daley*, 214 F.3d 1135, 1141 (9th Cir. 2000) (*quoting* *Robertson v. Methow Valley Citizens Council*, 490 U.S. 332, 348 (1989)).

¹⁷ *Id.* (citation omitted).

soils and wetlands cite any of the materials submitted by SEACC and ACAT on the DEIS.¹⁸ Without providing evidence of its reasoning in the FEIS or supporting resource reports, the agency's conclusion of negligible effects is arbitrary and it cannot demonstrate it took a hard look at the responsible opposing scientific viewpoints submitted for the record.

III. FAILURE TO REQUIRE KARST VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS BEFORE TREATING KARST VIOLATES THE NATIONAL FOREST MANAGEMENT ACT AND THE 2016 TONGASS LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN.

The Forest Service violates NFMA when it acts contrary to a governing forest plan.¹⁹ Standards established in forest plans "are binding limitations typically designed to prevent degradation of current resource conditions."²⁰ Thus, "[a] site-specific project must comply with the standards set forth in the governing forest plan, and a project's deviation from a standard requires amendment to the forest plan."²¹

The 2016 Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) requires the Forest Service to inventory and classify karst and cave resources based on resource values and sensitivity to change. To meet the direction provided by the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act (FCRPA), regulations, and agency policy, the TLMP establishes forest-wide standard and guidelines for managing karst and cave resources to comply with the requirements of the FCRPA Act and applicable regulations and policy.²² As pointed out in the POW LLA FEIS, to comply with TLMP "[a] karst resource vulnerability assessment is conducted for each project regardless of its scale."²³

TLMP directs the agency to:

¹⁸ Only two resource reports, Schneider (2018)(PR # 833-1063) and Whitacre (2018)(PR # 833_1069), reference any of the documents submitted by SEACC and ACAT for the record. Bibliographies for both resource reports cite Norris, et al. (1991)(PR# 833-1109).

¹⁹ See 16 U.S.C. § 1604(i) ("Resource plans and permits, contracts, and other instruments for the use and occupancy of National Forest System lands shall be consistent with the land management plans.").

²⁰ All. for the Wild Rockies v. United States Forest Serv., 907 F.3d 1105, 1113 (9th Cir. 2018)

²¹ *Id*

²² See TLMP, KCI.II.A at 4-23; see also TLMP, Appendix H.

²³ POW LLA FEIS at 3-253.

Evaluate karst resources as to their vulnerability to land uses affecting karst systems, as described in the Karst and Cave Resource Significance Assessment, Ketchikan Area, Tongass National Forest, Alaska (Aley et al. 1993), Karst Landscapes and Associated Resources: A Resource Assessment (USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-383) (Baichtal and Swanston 1996), Karst Management Standards and Implementation Review, Final Report of the Karst Review Panel (Griffiths et al. 2002), and the information provided herein.

Karst resources must be evaluated according to their vulnerability to land uses affecting karst systems.²⁴

Activity Card # 35 is the only activity card applicable to activities involving herbicidal treatment of invasive plants. Resource-specific guidelines on Activity Card #35 for Geology/Karst provide:

Review treatment plans with the District/SO Geologist or Karst Specialist. All hydrology and fisheries project design features will be applied to high and moderate vulnerability karst systems for both surface and subsurface aquatic systems.²⁵

Importantly, this language does not require the Forest Service to conduct a karst vulnerability analysis before applying herbicides on karst terrain. Therefore, this outcome is inconsistent with TLMP provisions, a violation of NFMA.

A review of applicable Project Design Feature (PDF) contained in Krosse (2018) include one that relates directly to both high and moderate vulnerability karst. This PDF, however, does not require a karst vulnerability assessment before implementation of herbicidal treatment of invasive plants on karst. PDF # 49 states:

Stream and other aquatic PDFs will be applied to high vulnerably karst sites (see Hydrology and Aquatic Organism Resource Reports). Moderate vulnerability karst should be assessed for openness by a karst management specialist prior to treatment and will follow all PDFs as applicable. Herbicides are suitable on low vulnerability karst (See Aquatic/Hydro PDFs).²⁶

²⁴ 2016 TLMP, App. H-Karst and Cave Resources, Karst II.A. and Karst III.A, at H-1.

²⁵ POW LLA FEIS., App. A-Activity Cards, Card# 35 at A-161; Draft ROD, App. 1 at 1-158.

²⁶ *Id.*, Appendix B at 109.

Notably, neither the Hydrology nor Aquatic Organism Resource Reports, require performance of karst vulnerability assessments before conducting herbicidal treatment on karst terrain as required by the 2016 TLMP.²⁷

In response to comments submitted on the DEIS, the FEIS states:

As outlined in the Implementation Plan (Appendix B, page 13), each site where any treatment is proposed will undergo a comprehensive process that includes development of a weed management plan that then is reviewed by IDT resource specialists. Where karst is concerned, the plan would need approval from a certified Geologist that may include specific recommendations for mitigation measures. Any sites where herbicide use is proposed will additionally require a Pesticide Use

Proposal (PUP) that is then further reviewed by the Regional Pesticide Use Coordinator and approved by the Regional Forester or other delegated official before implementation.²⁸

This response does not cure the inconsistencies noted above. Contrary to the agency's response, nothing in the comprehensive invasive plant treatment strategy requires "approval from a certified Geologist." Although Activity Card #35 calls for review of treatment plans by "the District/SO Geologist or Karst Specialist," it does not require preparation of a karst vulnerability assessment or allow the Geologist to delay implementation until completion of the assessment. Likewise, nothing in the PUP requires completion of a karst vulnerability assessment or approval by a certified Geologist before implementation.²⁹

In contrast to the equivocal nature of the above PDFs, Aley asserts that "[t]he karst vulnerability classes are critical to the evaluation of land management activities on karst resources and the karst groundwater system."³⁰ The Forest Service's failure to examine the Aley

²⁷ See PR# 833_1069 at 27-29 (PDFs for Hydrology) PR# 833_1063 at 19-21 (PDFs for Aquatic Resources)

²⁸ FEIS, App. D

²⁹ See FEIS, App. B - Implementation Plan at B-17 (requiring completion and approval of PUP by "the Regional Pesticide Use Coordinator, and approved by the Regional Forester or other delegated official before implementation (footnote omitted).") See also Krosse (2018e) at 99-104 (PR# 833_1056).

³⁰ See Aley's Report (June 28, 2005)(PR # 1919 Lit_1919). This document is referenced in PR# 833_1972 ("Index displaying documents cited as exhibits or attachments by ... SEACC in Letter #833_1634, Most of these documents were not cited in the POW LLA analysis. If SEACC & ACAT Objections

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Report and articulate a satisfactory explanation for not requiring a karst vulnerability analysis before spraying any herbicides on karst terrain is arbitrary and violates NFMA.

IV. FINDING OF "NO EFFECT" FROM APPLYING HERBICIDES ON HIGH VULNERABILITY KARST IS ARBITRARY.

According to the FEIS, there will be "[n]o effect [from applying herbicides on high vulnerability (open) karst systems] due to implementation of hydrology and aquatic PDFs." ³¹ Krosse (2018) asserts that:

The impact from herbicide treatment on waters within high vulnerability karst ecosystems and their dependent aquatic organisms, water quality (both surface and subsurface) and soil productivity is negligible because project design features developed for Hydrology and Aquatic Organisms are used to provide additional precautions."³²

The FEIS explains that it based its conclusions on full analyses contained in the applicable resource reports and by use of available scientific risk assessments "synthesized in Krosse (2018d)."³³ This conclusion is reasonable, however, only if the agency can demonstrate that it examined the relevant data, articulated a satisfactory explanation for its action, and provided a "rational connection between the facts found and the choice made."³⁴ A decision is arbitrary if the agency "entirely failed to consider an important aspect of the problem" or

they were cited, they are included in the POW LLA Project Record and POW LLA Project Record Index. The remainder of the documents are filed at the Thome Bay Ranger District Forest Service Office on jump drives, CD, and a hard drive."). In preparing these objections, SEACC realized that we had submitted miss-scanned copy of Aley's Report. Consequently, we submit a corrected scan of the Aley Report (with attachments) with this objection.

³¹ *Id.* at Table 6, at 3-74.

³² PR# 833_1056 at 36-37; *id.* at 22 ("no impact due to implementation of hydrology and aquatic PDF's."); *see also* Foss (2018)(PR # 833_1072 at 15).

³³ FEIS at 3-72.

³⁴ *Motor Vehicle Mfrs. Ass'n of the U.S. v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 463 U.S. 29, 43 (1983) (quoting *Burlington Truck Lines v. United States*, 371 U.S. 156, 168 (1962)).

"offered an explanation for its decision that runs counter to the evidence before the agency."³⁵ Similarly, an action may be arbitrary if the record does not support the agency's reasoning.³⁶

The agency's conclusion is arbitrary for several reasons. First, use of the cited SERA risk assessments (SERA, 2007, 2011a, 2011b) did not follow agency direction because none evaluated literature published or unpublished after 2011.³⁷ Consequently none of "[t]he SERA risk assessment synthesize all known studies" because objectors provided multiple studies with our comments on the DEIS that were published after the date of the latest SERA risk assessment used for this project but never looked at.³⁸ The assessment for Aminopyralid³⁹ is dated June 28, 2007, and the latest assessment for Glyphosate⁴⁰ is dated March 25, 2011. The final SERA risk assessment for Imazapyr is dated December 16, 2011.⁴¹ The most recent report on adjuvants is from January 1, 2007.⁴²

For purposes of evaluating effects in karst landscapes, Foss (2018) uses the potential for herbicides to enter subsurface waters systems.⁴³ For example, Foss (2018) concludes that "Imazapyr degrades quickly in water by sunlight so water contamination is minimized" and concludes that microbial degradation [and] microbial degradation . . . are complex biochemical reactions that ultimately turn the herbicides into inert salts and carbon dioxide."⁴⁴

As emphasized by Aley:

³⁵ Id. at 43.

³⁶ See, e.g., *Ctr. for Biological Diversity v. NHTSA*, 538 F.3d 1172, 1201-03 (9th Cir. 2008); *Pac. Coast Fed'n of Fishermen's Ass'ns v. NMFS*, 265 F.3d 1028, 1037-38 (9th Cir. 2001).

³⁷ See Kresse (2018e)(PR # 833_1056) at 31; PR# 833_1005, § 1.3 at 12-15 (Preparation of Environmental Documentation and Risk Assessments for the USDA/Forest Service).

³⁸ Compare Foss 2018 (PR# 833_1072 at 6)(cited in K.rosse 2018e, Table 3 at 22 for measuring effects to soil productivity, wetlands, and high vulnerability karst) *with* Van Bruggen et al. (2018)(PR # 1922 Lit_1922) at 257 (citing multiple post 2012 studies on transport of glyphosate due to rain and erosion); Mesnage, R. et al. (2015) at 8 (residues in drinking water)(PR # 1914 Lit 1914).

³⁹ PR # 833_0448 (June 28, 2007).

⁴⁰ PR# 833_0449 (Mar. 25, 2011).

⁴¹ PR# 833 0447.

⁴² PR# 833 1075.

⁴³ PR# 833 1072 at 9.

⁴⁴ Id. at 8, 14.

There is no sunlight present in groundwater systems, including karst groundwater systems. Photodegradation is also appreciably reduced in the shade beneath the tree canopy..... In a karst aquifer (sic) any degradation of flumazapyr will be primarily or perhaps exclusively due to microbial metabolism, and such herbicide metabolism rates will be orders of magnitude slower than in soils where there are larger microbial populations. The fact that there are orders of magnitude larger microbial populations in the soil than in the karst groundwater system is well known to biologists who routinely work with caves.⁴⁵

Similarly, Krosse (2018e) downplays current infestations of invasive plants on high vulnerability karst "[because] the issues related to karst ecosystems are the same as the issues related to herbicide effects to water quality and aquatic organism."⁴⁶ Further, Krosse (2018e) concludes "although some adverse effects from these actions are unavoidable," overall effects of herbicides "are not expected to be measurable" to high vulnerability karst, because project design features will minimize adverse effects to high vulnerability karst.⁴⁷

However, Aley cautions that "herbicide degradation to harmless compounds is much slower in groundwater systems than in soils [because] of magnitude lower levels of microbial activity in groundwater" and "the [rapid] rates of water movement through the karst groundwater systems of southeast (sic) Alaska."⁴⁸ Aley faults the assumption that "most of the herbicides reaching the forest floor would be retained or destroyed in the soil prior to entry into the karst groundwater system" because "water and contaminant migration from the forest floor into the underlying karst conduits during precipitation events is extremely rapid, and as a result the soils will not provide effective adsorption and degradation of the herbicides."⁴⁹

⁴⁵ Aley's Report at 8 (PR# 1919 Lit_1919).

⁴⁶ Krosse (2018e)(PR # 833_1056) at 31

⁴⁷ *See id.*, at 34; *see also id.* 105 - 109 (Appendix B, Project Design Features).

⁴⁸ Aley's Report at 10; *see also*

⁴⁹ Aley's Report at 10 (referencing USGS (2002) to demonstrate "that herbicides are not effectively detained and degraded in the soil overlying karst units, but instead move through these soils and into karst aquifers and their receiving springs.").

A review of the Project Design Features in Krosse (2018e) offers additional examples of how the Forest Service failed to carefully consider issues raised in the Aley Report. First, PDF #16 requires "[m]arker dye to be used to mark where herbicides have been applied to avoid over spraying." However, Aley plainly indicates that how important dye tracing is before application of herbicides to determine whether pesticides would enter underground streams.⁵⁰

Next, PDF #19 provides that "[h]erbicides will not be applied immediately prior to, during, or immediately after a rain event at the treatment site." However, as Aley notes, "[i]t rains frequently, in appreciable quantities, and in all seasons in Southeast Alaska; that is why the area is classified as a temperate rainforest."⁵¹ He also notes "a well-developed (sic) and hydrologically integrated karst groundwater system [is] capable of rapidly draining overlying and adjacent tributary lands and conveying the water rapidly through caves and karst groundwater conduits to springs which will be both inside and outside of the planned spray area."⁵² These facts are important because:

The chance that one or more precipitation events capable of washing more than half of this water soluble and highly mobile herbicide off plants and onto the forest floor is very high. Based upon the precipitation patterns [on Long Island, adjacent to Hydaburg on Prince of Wales Island] DEC should assume that more than half of the Imazapyr applied under the permit will reach the forest floor.⁵³

The above discussion demonstrates how little attention the Forest Service gave to the effects of herbicide contamination of groundwater in karst systems and the Aley Report. The failure to consider important aspects of the problem makes the "no effect" findings in the resource reports' arbitrary with regard to karst groundwater.

Finally, we point out the significance of these errors given the existence of rare amphipods associated with karst. According to the FEIS:

Two cave obligate amphipod species are being specifically considered in this project: one is *Stygobromus quatsinensis*, described in 1987 (Holsinger and Shaw 1987), and the other is an undescribed species of the same genus (Holsinger *et al.* 1997). These amphipods are being specifically considered in this project because

⁵⁰ *Id.* at 4.

⁵¹ Aley Report at 6

⁵² *Id.* at 5.

⁵³ *Id.* at 7.

they are thought to be rare and a majority of their documented occurrences are within the project area. *Stygobromus quatsinensis* was initially discovered in caves on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, and a majority of its documented occurrences have been in the project area in springs and caves on Heceta, Dall, Baker, Suemez, and Coronation islands. *Stygobromus* n sp. is only known to occur in El Capitan, Lower El Capitan, and Starlight cave systems on Prince of Wales Island. These cave dwelling species have specific karst habitat requirements and are sensitive to changes in water quality, especially temperature and pH (Holsinger *et al.* 1997).⁵⁴

Given that "a majority of the documented occurrences of cave obligate amphipods ... have been in the project area," the FEIS and supporting resource reports are arbitrary because the agency failed to take a hard look at the effects on these rare species from using herbicides to treat invasive plants on high vulnerability karst. Neither the Draft ROD, FEIS, nor any of the supporting resource reports considered this important aspect of the issue before incorporating the use of herbicide treatments on invasive plants in the Selected Alternative.

V. FAILURE TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INTERAGENCY REVIEW TEAM'S PROJECT-LEVEL REVIEW VIOLATES TLMP.

The FEIS Summary states: "Connectivity between large and medium old growth reserves (OGRs) was reviewed by an Interagency Old Growth Reserve Panel as required by the Forest Plan." ⁵⁵ The 2018 Interagency Review Team (IRT) recommended a modification to a small Old Growth Reserve (OGR) lost from Value Comparison Unit (VCU) 5570 due to a congressionally-approved land exchange with replacement acres located in that VCU and adjacent VCU 5542.⁵⁶

Our comments on the DEIS complained about the agency's failure to disclose and incorporate the IRT recommendations for this project.⁵⁷ In response, we learned that "[t]he Responsible Official decided to not amend the Forest Plan through this process to narrow the

⁵⁴ FEIS at 3-135.

⁵⁵ FEIS at vii.

⁵⁶ Pub. L. No. 115-31, Div. G, Section 431(a)(2) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act (May 5, 2017).

⁵⁷ See PR# 833 1634 at 14.

scope of analysis for this project."⁵⁸ This statement is arbitrary because as noted by the IRT "[a]n overall review of the Conservation Strategy is not necessary for a modification to an individual OGR [and can be] document[ed] through the NEPA process."⁵⁹ Although carrying out the recommended modification for this small reserve would result in an amendment to TLMP, we are unaware of any project approved after 1998 that did not amend the Conservation Strategy for a particular project area to some extent. Moreover, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service explained that it considered replacing the lost of old growth connectivity in VCU 5570 "to be the highest priority OGR adjustment."⁶⁰

The 2016 TLMP requires the agency to "[d]esign projects to maintain landscape connectivity"⁶¹ and "[d]uring the environmental analysis for [logging] projects" to evaluate whether there is "sufficient old-growth forest connectivity"⁶² As the Forest Service explained in the FEIS for the 2016 TLMP, this is especially true on Prince of Wales Island:

As development continues through timber harvest and associated activities such as road building, and community expansion, particularly in areas where extensive development has already occurred (i.e., Prince of Wales Island), maintaining connectivity and roadless refugia will become increasingly important, particularly for wide-ranging species whose distribution depends on some level of connectivity across the landscape.⁶³

Appendix K to TLMP specifies the IRT process for project-level review. Appendix K recognizes the need for a project level review when "[a]ctions are proposed within the [Old Growth Reserve] that will reduce the integrity of the old-growth habitat in the OGR" and when "[t]he OGR will be affected by a land conveyance."⁶⁴ Replacing the lands in adjacent VCU 5542 will provide important habitat connectivity between Sarkar/Honker Large OGR and scattered outer islands to the west. The address the IRT's

⁵⁸ FEIS, App. D at D-63.

⁵⁹ PR# 833 0903 at 7.

⁶⁰ See FEIS, App. D at D-105.

⁶¹ 2016 TLMP at 4-87 (WILD.VI.A.).

⁶² 2016 TLMP at 4-87 (WILD.VI.A.2).

⁶³ 2016 Forest Plan FEIS at 3-217.

⁶⁴ *Id.*, Appendix Kat K-1, 2.

recommendation to replace the lost of old growth connectivity in VC U 5570 is arbitrary and inconsistent with the 2016 Tongass Plan

VI. FOREST SERVICE VIOLATES NEPA BY FAILING TO USE HIGH QUALITY INFORMATION IN FEIS.

In our DEIS comments,⁶⁵ SEACC pointed out how the DEIS explanation of the Niblack and Bokan Mountain prospects was incomplete, inaccurate, and confusing. Our comments referenced existing agency documents and documents readily available on the State of Alaska's Large Mine Permit website. The discussion in the socioeconomic section of the FEIS,⁶⁶ however, completely ignores our comments and the cited information. Putting such unsubstantiated claims in official government documents lends a notion of undeserved credibility to these statements. The Forest Service is required to insure that whatever information is disclosed in the FEIS is of high quality and accurate. *See* 40 C.F.R. 1500.1(b); 1506.5(a).

Objectors request adding the following statement to the FEIS to address this matter:

This FEIS includes certain statements that may be deemed "forward-looking statements." All statements in this FEIS, other than statement of historical facts, that address future financing and/or business acquisition activities, timelines, events or developments that the Forest Service expects, are forward looking statements. Although the Forest Service believes the expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, such statements are not guarantees of future performance or results and actual results or developments may differ materially from those in forward-looking statements. The Forest Service has assumed that these mines will in the near future be able to obtain interim financing and sufficient additional financing to actually create a single job. The Forest Service has also assumed that there will be no material adverse findings in the upcoming expected comprehensive due diligence reviews of reality for either of the prospects. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated in the FEIS include: Bokan and Niblack's decades-long inability to raise sufficient funds to move forward; resistance to or non-compliance by the owners or key shareholders with the existing agreements; the emergence of alternative superior metallurgy and mineral separation technologies; unexpected transaction costs or other deal completion setbacks; the availability and procurement of any

⁶⁵ See PR # 833 1634 at 14-15.

⁶⁶ *Id.* at 3-300.

required interim financing that may be required; and general economic, market or business conditions.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these objections. We look forward to your response.

Best Regards,



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**Report on anticipated impacts of aerially applied herbicide on karst areas on
Long Island, Alaska.**

Thomas J. Aley. June 28, 2005.

This report is prepared to comply with AK R RCP Rule 26 which requires that certain information be included in a written report signed and prepared by an expert witness.

Background Information and Experience

My name is Thomas J. Aley. I am President of the Ozark Underground Laboratory, Inc. My office is at 1572 Aley Lane, Protem, MO 65733. The phone is 417-785-4289.

I hold B.S. and M.S. degrees in forestry from the University of California at Berkeley. I am a licensed Professional Geologist in the states of Arkansas, Kentucky, and Alabama, and am a Registered Geologist in the state of Missouri. I am also a Certified Forester, certified by the Society of American Foresters, and a Professional Hydrogeologist certified by the American Institute of Hydrology. The bulk of my practice over the last 40 years has dealt with water and land use issues in karst landscapes with special emphasis on forested landscapes. A current copy of my resume, including a list of publications, is attached to this report as Attachment 1.

From 1966 to 1973 I was employed by the United States Forest Service as a hydrologist on the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri. My principal duty was to direct study investigations on the Hurricane Creek Barometer Watershed. Approximately 20 barometer watersheds were established on National Forests across the nation to study the impacts of National Forest land management activities on water resources. The Hurricane Creek Barometer Watershed was established as the national type-example for karst areas. Results from this work have subsequently been used on many national forests including the Tongass National Forest in Alaska.

My work on the Hurricane Creek study included developing methods useful for tracing underground water flows in karst landscapes. Such tracing work, most commonly conducted with fluorescent tracer dyes, is critical to understanding where and how land management activities in particular areas will impact groundwater resources, springs, and spring-fed streams. As a part of my work on the Hurricane Creek study I served on a Forest Service panel to assess the off-target impacts of aerial application of herbicides on the National Forests in Missouri. Essentially all of these national forest lands are in karst regions.

I anticipate that my testimony will include some references to the Hurricane Creek Barometer Watershed studies and the relevance of that work and my experience to the potential use of aerially applied herbicides on Long Island.

In 1973 I began full-time employment with the Ozark Underground Laboratory, a consulting and contract studies firm that I founded. Much of my work since 1973 has dealt with the subsurface movement of water and contaminants in karst landscapes. I have conducted this work throughout the United States and in several foreign countries.

Attachment 2 is a paper by Aley and Halterman (1982) from a symposium proceedings entitled "A conceptual characterization of the subsurface movement of toxic chemicals in soluble rock lands." It provides a discussion of the issue for an audience consisting largely of land and resource managers and should be useful to the Hearing Officer. I anticipate that issues discussed in this paper will be the topic of some of my testimony.

I have directed or been involved with a number of groundwater tracing investigations on Prince of Wales, Tuxekan, Heceta, Kosciusko, and Chichagof Islands. I have also conducted karst work on Dall and Baker Islands. Groundwater tracing work on these islands has clearly and consistently demonstrated that the karst groundwater systems of the region are extremely open to the entry and rapid subsurface transport of potential water contaminants. These contaminants would include aerially applied herbicides.

Issue 1. The applicant failed to produce a technically credible characterization of karst and karst groundwater conditions on Long Island. As a result the applicant has failed to develop information essential for answering a specific information request from the DEC.

DEC sent Klukwan Inc., Long Island Trust a letter dated July 30, 2004 relating to deficiencies in the permit application to apply herbicides on Long Island. DEC requested the following information:

"A discussion about the soil types and Karst topography is also needed. Explain what factors you considered and what assurances we have that the chemicals will not enter any underground streams supported by this topography?"

In response to the DEC request, the applicant submitted a document entitled "Reconnaissance Survey of Groundwater Conditions on Northern Long Island, Alaska" authored by Thomas O'Donnell and dated December 21, 2004. In subsequent discussions we will call this report and its appendices the O'Donnell report.

O'Donnell states (page 3):

"The American Society for Testing Materials has established general criteria for determining and classifying karst terrains based on geomorphologic and hydrological conditions. (ASTM D5717.95el) These are based on features that can often be determined by reconnaissance level investigations using available published technical reports and maps. Features used to classify specific karst areas include: bedrock type, depth to bedrock or soil thickness, topography, surface and subsurface hydrology, spring

chemistry, distribution, landscape position, and type of surface and subsurface karst features. "

Later (p. 4) O'Donnell states:

"Both the ASTM and Forest Service criteria were used to design the investigation that is reported in this document. "

I served on the committee that wrote this ASTM document and it clearly does not do what O'Donnell claims; it is also not listed in his references. The title of the document is: "Standard Guide for Design of Ground-Water Monitoring Systems in Karst and Fractured-Rock Aquifers". A copy of this ASTM standard guide is attached as Attachment 3.

Contrary to what O'Donnell states, ASTM Standard D 5717 does not establish general criteria for determining and classifying karst terrains based on geomorphologic and hydrological conditions. Contrary to what O'Donnell states, ASTM Standard D 5717 does not classify specific karst areas based on features which include: bedrock type, depth to bedrock or soil thickness, topography, surface and subsurface hydrology, spring chemistry, distribution, landscape position, and type of surface and subsurface karst features. The "Introduction" to ASTM Standard D 5717 states:

"This guide for the design of ground-water monitoring systems in karst and fractured-rock aquifers promotes the design and implementation of accurate and reliable monitoring systems in those settings where the hydrogeologic characteristics depart significantly from the characteristics of porous media. "

ASTM Standard D 5717 would have been appropriate for O'Donnell's work if he had planned a monitoring system to detect and quantify herbicides in and discharging from the karst groundwater system on Long Island. No such monitoring activities were proposed in the O'Donnell report or by the applicant for this spray project. While almost any document might be of some tangential benefit in almost any project, it is clear that the statement by O'Donnell that he used the ASTM criteria in designing his investigation is, at best, a gross overstatement of the relevance of this statement to the work actually conducted by O'Donnell.

It is equally clear that O'Donnell's claim that he used U.S. Forest Service criteria for designing his investigation is unsupported by the report of his investigation. While he notes (page 4) that the Forest Service has established and published a karst vulnerability classification system that recognizes areas with low, moderate, and high vulnerability, he made no effort to determine the karst vulnerability classes existing in the proposed spray area. The karst vulnerability classes are critical to the evaluation of land management activities on karst resources and the karst groundwater system. He also made only trivial efforts to identify and characterize features (such as caves, springs, and the thickness of the epikarstic zone) that are diagnostic of the various vulnerability classes. My conclusions are based on the O'Donnell report and my familiarity with the Forest Service

karst vulnerability system for the Tongass National Forest. I was involved with the initial development of these standards and, in 2002, I was a member of the Karst Review Panel which reviewed the standards and their implementation (Karst Review Panel, 2002).

DEC asked the spray applicant to explain what factors were considered and what assurances there were that the chemicals would not enter any underground streams supported by this topography. The karst vulnerability class (High, Moderate, or Low) is a key factor needed for a credible karst assessment and for developing credible assurances about the extent to which applied herbicides would enter underground streams.

O'Donnell reports (page 5) that there were two primary components to his investigation, and that his investigations were modeled after programs for inventory of karst terrains that had been conducted on the Tongass National Forest and on coastal forests in northern British Columbia. His reference for karst inventories in British Columbia was Stokes and Griffiths (2000). Once again, the nature and extent of the O'Donnell work was extremely superficial and inconsistent with the programs that he references. As noted earlier, I am familiar with the Tongass National Forest program. I am also familiar with the program used in British Columbia and was one of the technical reviewers for the cited Stokes and Griffiths (2000) document. I also worked in the field with Stokes and Griffiths and results of that work are included in Stokes and Griffiths (2000).

O'Donnell reports (page 5) that he conducted a literature search and reviewed the information. He also reports (page 9) that he conducted a one-day field survey that consisted of a fly-over and an on-ground inspection of the Long Island Trust Property. He reportedly made site inspections at 14 locations and additional observations along the roads. There is no indication that he made any stereoscopic study of aerial photos of the island. Such studies of karst areas in Southeast Alaska routinely identify numerous major karst features such as large sinkholes and likely areas for finding large insurgences. Such air photo studies often provide insight into the degree of karst vulnerability. The aerial photos are routinely superior to fly-overs in identifying karst features and karst vulnerability.

Based upon my experience with karst assessments on Prince of Wales, Tuxekan, Heceta, Kosciusko, and Chichagof Islands, a credible karst assessment on Long Island would have required a minimum of approximately 20 man-days of fieldwork including three to five groundwater traces. In addition, the field personnel would have required training in karst vulnerability assessment work and in designing and conducting groundwater traces. Dye analysis work requires that samples be shipped to a laboratory experienced in conducting such work and capable of separating multiple tracer dyes in the same sample. A preliminary stereoscopic study of aerial photos is routinely done at the beginning of the project and then in the field throughout the period of fieldwork. This intensity of investigation is consistent with work done for the U.S. Forest Service on the Tongass National Forest and with work conducted in British Columbia as outlined in

Stokes and Griffiths (2000). This level of work would have enabled the applicant to answer the karst questions asked by DEC.

O'Donnell reports (page 10) that no sinkholes were identified during his inspection, yet his photo 1362 of a cave entrance appears to show that it is located in the bottom of a sinkhole. Under the Tongass karst classification system lands in the vicinity of this feature would be classed as high vulnerability regardless of whether or not this was a sinkhole.

Sinkholes provide extremely direct and open connections between the surface of the land and the underground streams that provide subsurface drainage for the karst. As a result, assessing the location and abundance of sinkholes on Long Island is essential to answering the DEC questions about herbicides reaching underground streams. Sinkholes are common to abundant on karst areas throughout Southeast Alaska. Based upon my experience it is essentially impossible for there not to be sinkholes in the karst areas on Long Island. The fact that O'Donnell did not identify any is a reflection of his superficial investigation rather than a credible characterization of the karst on Long Island.

O'Donnell reports (page 10) that surface epikarst features consisted of swales and shallow hummocky topography as shown in Photograph 1363. That photograph appears to show an elongated karst valley such as those commonly associated with high vulnerability karst lands. Based upon the very limited information and photos provided in the O'Donnell report it is clear to me that there are karst lands in the proposed spray area that would be classified as high vulnerability lands under the Tongass National Forest karst classification system.

On page 11 O'Donnell reports that land on Long Island underlain predominantly by marble appears to be drained internally through permeable conduits formed by dissolution of the carbonate rock. On page 17 he notes that perennial surface water features are not abundant and that this implies that a significant part of the annual average of 137 inches of rainfall leaves the island via underground flow. He also notes that water that infiltrates to the groundwater in karst areas will move rapidly to discharge points. These observations are fully consistent with a well developed and hydrologically integrated karst groundwater system capable of rapidly draining overlying and adjacent tributary lands and conveying the water rapidly through caves and karst groundwater conduits to springs which will be both inside and outside of the planned spray area. These are the same conditions found in karst areas on nearby islands. These observations by O'Donnell and their routine relationship to rapid water movement into and through the karst groundwater system are inconsistent with O'Donnell's conclusion that the karst groundwater system will not be significantly impacted by the proposed herbicide application.

In summary, the assessment of karst in the O'Donnell report was extremely superficial. O'Donnell stated that his investigations were modeled or designed based upon ASTM Standard D 5717 and programs for inventory of karst terrains on the Tongass National Forest and on coastal forests in northern British Columbia. This

contention is, at best, a misstatement apparently designed to give unwarranted authority and credibility to the work-which O'Donnell conducted. A technically credible inventory and assessment of the karst on Long Island was clearly needed to properly respond to the information request of DEC. O'Donnell identified relevant approaches, said that he used them, but essentially ignored them in the work that he conducted. Finally, O'Donnell's conclusion that the karst groundwater system will not be significantly impacted by the proposed herbicide application is not supported by credible information and is, in fact, inconsistent with information that O'Donnell provides in his report.

Issue 2. Based on work by O'Donnell, the DEC Decision Document (page 7) concludes that less than 1% of applied herbicide is expected to reach the soil surface of Long Island. Climatic conditions, the absence of permit stipulations prohibiting herbicide application prior to precipitation events, and characteristics of the herbicides make this conclusion unlikely and unreasonable.

The application rates of the two herbicides are to be 1.5 quarts per acre of Accord and 2 ounces per acre for Arsenal. Adjusting for the specific gravity of Accord (1.158) this equals 57.4 ounces of this herbicide per acre. Of the total herbicide mixture 3.4% of the herbicide to be applied will be Arsenal and 96.6% will be Accord.

It rains frequently, in appreciable quantities, and in all seasons in Southeast Alaska; that is why the area is classified as a temperate rainforest. Mean annual precipitation on Long Island is 137 inches per year (O'Donnell report). The DEC Decision Document states (page 7):

"Based on previous published accounts of the fate of Accord in similar application scenarios, the limited area of application, dilute solution concentrations, and dense vegetative growth, less than 1% of applied herbicide is expected to reach the soil surface of Long Island."

The above is not a credible statement for the following reasons:

Reason 1. The DEC Decision Document states that the application of Accord on Long Island represents a similar application scenario to the one reported in the literature by Newton et al.(1984) (see citation in O'Donnell report). This is not true. The estimate that less than 1% of the applied Accord will reach the forest floor is derived from a herbicide application in the Coast Range of Oregon. Summer rainfall in that portion of Oregon is infrequent and minimal whereas measurable rainfall on Long Island during the summer months occurs on more than half of the days. Rainfall washes herbicides off plant foliage and deposits it on the forest floor; the pesticide fact sheet on glyphosate in Appendix B of the O'Donnell report notes that glyphosate is highly water soluble. While the 1% value might be applicable to the amount of herbicide reaching the forest floor at the time of herbicide application, the DEC failed to consider or evaluate the amount of herbicide that is washed off vegetation by the frequent precipitation events characteristic of the Long Island area. As a result, the estimate that less than 1% of the applied

herbicide will reach the forest floor grossly under-estimates the total percentage of herbicide that will reach the forest floor.

Even during the period of the year when the herbicide would likely be applied it is more likely than not to rain on any particular day. Long Island receives about 2.5 times more precipitation per year than does Juneau, yet measurable precipitation occurs in Juneau on 53% of the days in June, 55% of the days in July, 58% of the days in August, and 67% of the days in September (van der Leeden et al., 1991). Data for weather stations nearer Long Island would be expected to show even higher percentages of days with measurable precipitation.

Reason 2. The DEC Decision Document (pages 20 and 21) lists pennit stipulations and pennit-specific conditions. There is no stipulation or pennit-specific condition that would prohibit the application of the herbicides on wet vegetation or shortly before precipitation events or, for that matter, even during rainfall events so long as the helicopter could fly safely. The label directions on the two herbicides do not prohibit applying the herbicide to wet plant surfaces or to plants prior to anticipated precipitation. The label for Accord recognizes, under the heading of "General Information," that rainfall after herbicide application can wash the chemical off the foliage. More specifically, the label notes that precipitation occurring within 6 hours after application may reduce effectiveness, and that heavy rainfall within 2 hours after application may wash the chemical off the foliage and a repeat treatment may be required (see also AR 0134). A case history example later in this report illustrates the extent of karst groundwater contamination and transport that can occur when precipitation follows even very localized herbicide applications.

Helicopter standby time waiting for a period when rainfall is unlikely for several days after spraying can substantially add to the cost of the spray project and to general logistical difficulties. Since there are no specific constraints in the permit nor the label requirements that relate to precipitation events it is likely that spraying will be conducted at a time when it is hoped that the foliage will absorb enough herbicide to cause an effective kill before remaining herbicide is washed off the foliage and onto the forest floor. It is unlikely and unreasonable to expect that this approach will result in less than 1% of the applied herbicide reaching the forest floor.

Reason 3. Approximately 3.4% of the herbicide applied to the vegetation will be Imazapyr (Arsenal). Label information and the pesticide fact sheet in Appendix B of the O'Donnell report state that this herbicide is water soluble and highly mobile. The pesticide fact sheet for Imazapyr in Appendix B of the O'Donnell report states that the half-life of Imazapyr on plants ranges from 12 to 40 days. The chance that one or more precipitation events capable of washing more than half of this water soluble and highly mobile herbicide off plants and onto the forest floor is very high. Based upon the precipitation patterns of the area DEC should assume that more than half of the Imazapyr applied under the permit will reach the forest floor. Cautionary label information for this herbicide, under the heading of "Environmental Hazards" (AR page 0128) states that this herbicide is extremely phytotoxic at extremely low concentrations. The statement in the

DEC decision document that less than 1 % of the applied herbicide will reach the forest floor is not credible with respect to the combined mixture of Accord and Arsenal, and is dramatically in error with respect to Arsenal, which is the more phytotoxic of the two herbicides. The O'Donnell report basically argues that the amounts of herbicide reaching the forest floor are so small as to be of no consequence. This is not the case in a temperate rainforest, and is especially not the case with Imazapyr.

Issue 3. The O'Donnell report and the DEC decision document inaccurately characterize the karst groundwater systems of Southeast Alaska and the ability of herbicides to enter and be rapidly transported through these systems to springs and spring-fed streams.

Reason 1. The DEC decision document (page 8) incorrectly states that Imazapyr has a half-life of no more than 2 days in water. This is factually incorrect. Note that page 5 of the DEC decision document, under the heading "Imazapyr", states that this herbicide will quickly undergo photodegradation in aqueous solutions with a half-life of only two days. Photodegradation means degradation in the presence of light. There is no sunlight present in groundwater systems, including karst groundwater systems. Photodegradation is also appreciably reduced in the shade beneath the tree canopy. As a result, except for herbicide in water solutions in direct sunlight, there are no documents of record indicating a decomposition rate for Imazapyr in water solutions. In a karst aquifer any degradation of Imazapyr will be primarily or perhaps exclusively due to microbial metabolism, and such herbicide metabolism rates will be orders of magnitude slower than in soils where there are larger microbial populations. The fact that there are orders of magnitude larger microbial populations in the soil than in the karst groundwater system is well known to biologists who routinely work with caves.

Reason 2. The DEC incorrectly asserts that typical groundwater residence times (even in karst systems) are usually much longer than a month or two, which should provide enough time for herbicide degradation before re-emergence. This assertion can be found on page 16 of the DEC responsiveness summary. The same assertion is found as reason 4 on page 9 of the DEC decision document.

While I agree that typical groundwater residence times in non-karst aquifers are usually longer than a month or two, this is clearly not the case for karst areas in general or for conditions typical of Southeastern Alaska. The above statement by the DEC is not supported by technical karst hydrology literature or by actual results from studies in Southeast Alaska. No technical source is given for this speculative comment and there are no references at all dealing with karst cited in the DEC decision documents.

Typical groundwater residence time in karst aquifers of Southeast Alaska is only a few days. This has been demonstrated in numerous groundwater tracing studies in Southeast Alaska. Attachment 4 summarizes dye trace lengths, gradients, and estimated mean velocities for the first arrival of tracer dyes from 18 groundwater traces conducted

during a study on Prince of Wales Island. These traces were conducted during late summer and early fall conditions in 2003 when conditions were typical of that time of year. The report from which this table is excerpted also notes that groundwater velocities can be an order of magnitude greater under wetter conditions. The applicant did not conduct any groundwater traces on Long Island and did not present any data relative to groundwater traces on that island. Given the lack of any specific data to the contrary, typical groundwater residence times in the area proposed for herbicide application on Long Island must be assumed to be similar to those on other islands with extensive karst in this part of the state and thus only a few days.

Reason 3. DEC fails to recognize that herbicides are commonly found in the waters of karst springs when those pesticides are sprayed on lands that contribute water to the karst groundwater system. The DEC incorrectly concludes that typical groundwater residence times are long enough to provide for herbicide degradation before re-emergence.

The US Geological Survey (USGS, 2002) (Attachment 5) publication "Pesticides and nutrients in karst springs in the Green River Basin, Kentucky, May-September" indicates that groundwater detention times and degradation rates in karst are not sufficient to prevent the discharge of measurable quantities of herbicides. Eight karst springs were monitored during the study period. The herbicide atrazine was detected in 100% of the sampled springs and the herbicide Simazine was detected in 93% of the springs. These data run counter to the DEC assertion that:

"...typical groundwater residence times (even in karst systems) are usually much longer than a month or more, which should provide enough time for herbicide degradation before re-emergence ...".

The USGS publication states:

"Ground water and springs in the Green River Basin potentially are vulnerable to increased concentrations of pesticides and nitrates associated with agricultural activities, such as pesticides and nitrates, because of the presence of karst topography. The karst topography can allow rapid recharge of flow through fractures in rock and solutional conduits, providing little opportunity for natural filtering to occur. Understanding the extent and potential severity of ground-water contamination in karst areas is therefore crucial to protecting the public and water resources in the Green River Basin."

The USGS (2002) publication clearly demonstrates that herbicides are not effectively detained and degraded in the soil overlying karst units, but instead move through these soils and into karst aquifers and their receiving springs. As a Professional Geologist licensed in the state of Kentucky I can verify that the soils in the Green River Basin are deeper and finer textured than almost all soils that I have seen in karst areas of Southeast Alaska. As a result, the soils in the Green River Basin of Kentucky should be more effective in detaining and degrading herbicides than the soils existing in Southeast Alaska. Furthermore, annual precipitation in the Green River Basin is on the order of 45

to 50 inches per year whereas O'Donnell (2004) reports that the annual precipitation on Long Island is about 137 inches per year. In addition, evapotranspiration rates in Kentucky are far greater than on Long Island, Alaska. Movement of herbicides from surfaces (including bare soil, rock, or vegetation) into and through karst soils would be expected to increase as precipitation amounts increase and as evapotranspiration rates decrease.

Reason 4. DEC has not adequately recognized that herbicide degradation to harmless compounds is much slower in groundwater systems than in soils. This is well established in the technical literature. One of the primary reasons for the slower rates in groundwater than in soils is the orders of magnitude lower levels of microbial activity in groundwater as compared with soils. The Decision Document dated March 7, 2005 by the Division of Environmental Health provides some statements on degradation rates in soils but fails to consider the ineffectively low degradation rates of herbicides in groundwater. Page 1 of the Decision Document of March 7, 2005 states:

"2. Glyphosate is strongly adsorbed to soil and relatively immobile, preventing excessive leaching or uptake by non-target plants. The half-life averages two months. Glyphosate is also degraded by rapid microbial action.

"3. Of the herbicides commonly used in forest applications, imazapyr is one of the more persistent, depending on the soil type. The half-lives of most other forest herbicides are generally 2 to 5 weeks (Spence, 1996). Other studies show the persistence of imazapyr in soil is highly variable and reported soil half lives range from about 5 days to 17 months, depending on factors such as temperature, pH, aeration, organic matter, and soil depth. The most influential factor in the persistence of imazapyr in soil, however, appears to be microbial activity. "

Given the rates of water movement through the karst groundwater systems of southeast Alaska it is clear to me that there will be only minor degradation of any of the herbicides that enter the groundwater system. This is the case even if the half life values given for soils were applicable (which they are not) to degradation within the groundwater system.

Reason 5. The O'Donnell report and the DEC decision document contend that most of the herbicides reaching the forest floor would be retained or destroyed in the soil prior to entry into the karst groundwater system. This contention fails to recognize that water and contaminant migration from the forest floor into the underlying karst conduits during precipitation events is extremely rapid, and as a result the soils will not provide effective adsorption and degradation of the herbicides. The USGS publication discussed earlier makes this point and this is the reason that herbicides are commonly found in the water of karst springs that drain areas which have received herbicide applications.

Karst springs in Southeast Alaska respond within hours to precipitation events. Precipitation of an inch or more (and sometimes less) routinely result in several-fold flow rate increases at springs. Dye tracing results in karst areas demonstrate that the increased

flow in springs associated with precipitation events is due predominantly to the precipitation which fell during the rainfall event rather than being due to water displacement in a saturated aquifer.

Reason 6. The DEC decision document contends that most contamination of karst aquifers is from point sources. From this they incorrectly infer that non-point source contamination is not a problem for karst aquifers and thus aerially applied herbicides will not significantly impact the karst aquifer on Long Island.

Karst aquifers are open to both point and non-point sources of contamination. Many of the non-point source contaminants enter the groundwater system through localized flow routes called discrete recharge zones. In cut-over areas these are often features such as old root channels or other types of macropores. The DEC decision document does not list any references specific to karst.

The USGS document enclosed as Attachment 5 deals with herbicides in karst springs. These herbicides entered primarily from non-point source applications. In a karst setting it is incorrect to assume or infer that the only groundwater contamination of concern will be that associated with point sources.

Case History Study

In addition to the three specific issues discussed above, I expect to testify about a groundwater tracing study I did in a karst area of Missouri associated with powerline spraying with herbicides that did damage to plants in a nearby greenhouse. The water used in the greenhouse came from a spring. The powerline right-of-way had a width of about 30 feet and had been sprayed by the utility company. The herbicide that was used is not known to me. The herbicide application was probably ground-based. Attachment 6 is a report which I prepared on this study.

The first spraying of the powerline was done on July 22, -1994. It rained after the spraying and the line was reportedly re-sprayed the next week. Water from a spring in the area was used as the irrigation water for the greenhouse, and the use of this water caused extensive plant damage and plant death in the greenhouse.

I did two dye traces associated with the powerline during January 1998. One trace used 0.1 pounds of eosine dye mixture containing 75% dye equivalent in 0.7 quarts of water. This dye mixture was poured on the ground in a small dry stream channel in the spray zone. For the other trace I introduced 0.25 pounds of liquid rhodamine WT dye mixture; this mixture contained 20% dye equivalent. This was introduced into the flow of a small stream that sank into the groundwater system within 300 feet of the dye introduction point.

Eosine dye from the powerline was detected at four springs in the area and rhodamine WT was detected at three of these springs. The one spring that received only eosine dye was Powerline Spring, and the rhodamine WT was introduced downstream of

this spring. Both dyes were detected in both activated carbon and water samples at the spring supplying the greenhouse and in both water and activated carbon samples from the other 2 (or in one case 3) springs.

The straight-line travel distance for the eosine trace from the point of dye placement to the greenhouse spring was about 2,900 feet; the distance for the rhodamine WT trace was about 2,700 feet. A water sample collected at the greenhouse less than 20 hours after the introduction of the dyes contained both of the dyes. Only a small portion of the area that contributes water to the greenhouse spring was sprayed.

The greenhouse case is relevant to the issue at hand for several reasons. It demonstrates that spraying only a small portion of a spring's recharge area with herbicide can degrade water quality to the extent that it banns or kills greenhouse plants. This case demonstrates that, contrary to assertions made in the DEC documents, herbicide detention and degradation in karst soils and in karst aquifers feeding springs did not prevent the migration of herbicide in quantities sufficient to hann or kill plants. The dye tracing associated with the case demonstrated that water and contaminants (in this case dyes) can readily move into and through karst soils and the karst aquifer. Finally, the case demo:Qstrates that precipitation following herbicide application can flush herbicides from plant and other surfaces into and through karst aquifers feeding springs.

Other Required Information

Compensation to be Paid for Study and Testimony

My charge rate is \$110.00 per hour regardless of the nature of the work. This is the same rate now charged to all clients except for those where the project began when a lower charge rate was in force. Expenses are billed at cost plus 5%.

Testimony in the Last Four Years

In the last four years I have given depositions and/or testified in the following matters:

Erwin Anthony Earl, Plaintiffv. City of Springfield, Defendant. US. District Court for the Western District of Missouri. Case No. 01-3213-CV-S-4. Deposition given in late 2002. Issue involved claimed degradation of water quality in Rader Spring due to sewage treatment plant effluents from City of Springfield. My work included groundwater tracing. Case was dropped by plaintiff. I was an expert for the City of Springfield.

Julian E. Holmes et al. plaintiffs v. McCartney Construction et al. Civil Action CV-99-362 in the Circuit Court of Talladega County, Alabama. Deposition given July, 2001; trial testimony was in late September and early October 2002 in Talladega County Circuit Court, Alabama. I was an expert for the plaintiff {Holmes}. Issue involved catastrophic formation of many new sinkholes on property of Holmes caused by heavy pumping of the

McCartney Quarry. A former perennial spring ceased flowing due to quarry pumping. Dye tracing showed rapid karst groundwater flow. Plaintiff won monetary judgment.

Combined cases:

Corra Hutto, and Dorothy Parham v. McCartney Construction Company, et al. Circuit Court of Talladega County, Alabama. Civil Action No. CV02-471

Edward Hutto v. McCartney Construction Company et al. Circuit Court of Talladega County, Alabama. Civil Action CV00-330.

John Shaddix v. McCartney Construction Company et al. Circuit Court of Talladega County, Alabama. Civil Action CV00-287.

I was the expert for all plaintiffs. Issues involved sinkhole formation and land subsidence in a karst area due to quarry pumping of large volumes of groundwater. Settled after my deposition, settlement terms not released.

The Boeing Company v. Affiliated FM Insurance Co. et al. Superior Court of the State of Washington for King County. No. 99-2-03873-SEA. Expert for The Boeing Company (plaintiff). I gave a deposition in Seattle on January, 2002. My work involved the reasonableness of actions by Boeing to discover, evaluate, monitor, and remediate TCE and some other contaminants in groundwater at the Boeing plant in Wichita, Kansas. The case was settled after my deposition, terms not disclosed.

R.G. Edmondson, trustee of the Jewell Edmondson Testamentary Trust v. Doug Edwards and Sandy Edwards. Circuit Court of Barry Co., Mo. CV 101-452CC: Expert for Edmondson (plaintiff). Defendant had constructed a large pond downstream of a karst spring. The pond leaked into the karst groundwater system thus decreasing (and sometimes eliminating) natural water flow to the Edmondson property. Testified at trial, judgment to plaintiff.

Mike Davis, et al., Plaintiffs v. Hartson Aggregates Southeast, Inc., et al. Civil Action No. CV 2002-85 in the Circuit Court for Lee County, Alabama. The issue involved off-site impacts of quarry pumping in an area where fractured non-karst rocks separated karst units. Resulting damage included sinkhole formation, subsidence of a county highway, and loss of water supply to a former perennial spring in an Opelika City park. I was expert for plaintiffs and gave three depositions and testified in court. Judgment for plaintiffs. 2004.

Basis and Reasons for Opinions

In addition to information previously provided and attached to this report my professional opinions are based upon my education, over 40 years of experience, and upon technical literature.

Purpose of Testimony

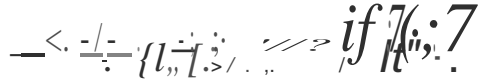
The purpose of my testimony is to demonstrate that the DEC decision document is severely flawed relative to issues involving karst lands and the likely movement of water and herbicide in those lands. Many of these flaws are a direct result of flaws, omissions, and incorrect statements in the O'Donnell report. The DEC has placed unwarranted reliance on the O'Donnell report.

References

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Signature

I certify that I prepared this report and that it accurately reflects my professional conclusions and opinions.



Thomas Aley, President
Ozark Underground Laboratory, Inc.

Attachments

1. Resume of Thomas Aley
2. Aley and Halterman. "A conceptual characterization of the subsurface movement of toxic chemicals in soluble rock lands."
3. ASTM Standard D-5717. 1995.
4. Table . Summary of Dye Trace Lengths, Gradients, and Estimated Mean Velocities at the First Arrival of Tracer Dyes. From Aley and Moss (2004).
5. USGS. 2002. "Pesticides and nutrients in karst springs in the Green River Basin, Kentucky, May-September 2001".
6. Groundwater tracing study of Stupperich Spring in the vicinity.

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Resume of Thomas Aley

PERSONAL DATA

Born September 8, 1938 in Steubenville, Ohio. U.S. Citizen. Married, two adult children.

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley. B.S. in Forestry (1960).

University of California, Berkeley. M.S. in Forestry with emphasis in forest influences and wildland hydrology. (1962).

University of California, Berkeley . Department of Geography (1962-1963); emphasis in hydrology and geology.

University of Arizona, Tucson. Department of Watershed Management (1963-1964); emphasis in wildland hydrology.

Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Department of Geography (1972-1973).
Emphasis in hydrology and geology.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION & REGISTRATION

Professional Hydrogeologist, Certificate Number 179, American Institute of Hydrology, Board of Registration. Granted 1983.

Certified Forester, Society of American Foresters. Granted 1996.

Professional Geologist, State of Arkansas Registration Number 1646. Issued 1991.

Professional Geologist, State of Kentucky Registration Number 1541. Issued 1994.

Registered Geologist; State of Missouri Registration Number 0989. Issued 1998.

Professional Geologist, State of Alabama Registration Number 1089. Issued 2003 .

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

American Institute of Hydrology

Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers

Society of American Foresters

Missouri Consulting Foresters Association

National Speleological Society

HONORS AND AWARDS

1960. Pack Prize in Forestry. University of California.

1961. Membership in Xi Sigma Pi, honorary forestry society.

Resume of Thomas Aley

1972. Award for outstanding performance, United States Forest Service.

1972. U.S. Forest Service nominee for the American Motors Conservation Award.

1973. Lester B. Dill Award for significant contributions to speleology. Mississippi Valley-Ozark Region of the National Speleological Society.

1977. Chairman's Conservation Award. Mississippi Valley-Ozark Region of the National Speleological Society.

1979. J Harlan Bretz Award for outstanding contributions to the study of speleology in the state of Missouri. Missouri Speleological Survey.

1981. Outstanding Service to Education Award. Phi Delta Kappa honorary educational fraternity for southwest Missouri.

1981. Fellow. National Speleological Society.

1988. In The Name of Science Award. Springfield, Missouri Public Schools. In recognition of outstanding service and dedication to science.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

1973 to Present. Director and President, Ozark Underground Laboratory, Protem, Missouri. Conducts or directs consulting and contract studies in hydrogeology, cave and karst related issues, and natural resource management of karst regions.

1966 to 1973. Hydrologist, United States Forest Service. Winona, Missouri and Springfield, Missouri. Directed the Hurricane Creek Barometer Watershed study, which assessed the interactions of land use and ground water hydrology in a forested karst area. Directed Grey Hollow study. Conducted "trouble shooting work" in Missouri, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Utah, Illinois, and Indiana. Left government service as GS-12.

1964 to 1965. Chief Hydrologist, Toups Engineering, Inc., Santa Ana, California. Duties included basic data collection and analysis for plaintiffs in Santa Ana Basin adjudication and similar work for defendants in San Gabriel Basin adjudication; these were both ground water basin adjudication suits. Directed technical work on ground water basin management and artificial recharge.

1963 to 1964. Teaching Assistant, Department of Watershed Management, University of Arizona, Tucson. Aerial photogrammetry and photo interpretation.

1963. Researcher, grant from Office of Naval Research, U.S. Navy, through Department of Geography, University of California, Berkeley. Conducted field studies on the origin and hydrology of caves in Jamaica, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. Responsible for all field work. Work resulted in 3 publications.

1960 to 1963. Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant, School of Forestry, University of California, Berkeley. Teaching in aerial photogrammetry, photo interpretation, and forest influences. Research assistant in the same fields.

Resume of Thomas Aley

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

39 years of professional experience in ground water and surface water hydrology, pollution control investigations, and land management issues with particular emphasis on soluble rock landscapes. The following projects are representative examples.

1. Hydrologic studies for land management and spring protection with particular emphasis on soluble rock regions. Numerous studies of this type have been conducted for local, state, and federal agencies in Missouri, Arkansas, Alabama, Kentucky, Illinois; Tennessee, Alaska, and Wyoming.
2. Expert witness testimony on pollution potential of underground injection of hazardous wastes into deep-lying soluble rocks in Oklahoma.
3. Expert witness testimony in ground water and surface water hydrology in Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, California, Alabama, Maryland, and Indiana.
4. Expert witness testimony on riverbank stability problems in Missouri before U.S. Senate Committees at request of Senator John Danforth of Missouri.
5. Member of 6-member review panel on the adequacy of testing to determine radionuclide migration from a radioactive waste disposal site at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, Idaho. Served as the only hydrogeologist on the panel.
6. Member of 6-member expert hydrogeology panel on hydrological issues associated with the St. Louis Airport Radioactive Waste Site.
7. Chairman of a 4-member "blue ribbon" panel established by the U.S. Forest Service to assess the significance of cave and karst resources in southeastern Alaska. The panel also assessed the extent to which land management activities were adversely impacting the resources.
8. Hydrologic consultant to St. Charles County, Missouri on clean-up of radioactive wastes at Weldon Spring Site, a former Atomic Energy Commission processing facility. Advised on actions to protect county well field from radioactive contaminants dumped in an abandoned quarry.
9. Ground water tracing in soluble rock landscapes, and delineation of recharge areas for spring systems. Work conducted in Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Texas, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Arizona, Oregon, California, Wyoming, and Alaska. Ground water tracing in fractured rock landscapes in New Hampshire, Alabama, New Mexico, Minnesota, Idaho, Utah, and Washington. Ground water tracing in unconsolidated geologic units in New York, Massachusetts, Florida, North Carolina, South Dakota, Missouri, Arkansas, California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and British Columbia (Canada).
10. Hydrogeologic investigations of groundwater impacts from pipeline corridors. Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

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11. Ground water tracing investigations at mines in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Utah, Colorado, Montana, Irian Jaya Indonesia, and Peru.
12. Hydrologic investigations to determine sources of pollutants which caused fish kills at commercial fish farms in Missouri and Arkansas.
13. Hydrogeologic site investigations (and sometimes testimony) on municipal landfills with emphasis on site suitability and probability of ground water contamination. 21 sites in Arkansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, and Alabama.
14. Hazardous waste remediation investigations with emphasis on hydrogeology. Sites in Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Alabama, Tennessee, and California. Second opinion review of projects in Missouri, Kansas, and New York.
15. Impacts of food processing wastes on surface and ground water quality. Various projects in Arkansas and Missouri.
16. Hydrologic investigations of petroleum pollution of wells. Multiple sites in Missouri, Arkansas, and North Carolina.
17. Assessment of the hydrologic impacts of proposed geothermal energy development on the Santa Clara Indian Reservation, New Mexico.
18. Investigations on the extent and sources of sewage contamination in about 100 springs at Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Work involved the delineation of recharge areas for most of these springs and the identification of sewer line segments which had the greatest leakage problems.
19. Hydrogeologic hazard area mapping for proposed sewer line corridors in a sinkhole plain area south of Mammoth Cave, Kentucky. Work included hydrologic recommendations for minimizing exfiltration and monitoring strategies.
20. Hydrogeologic mapping of Greene County, Missouri to identify areas where sinkhole flooding and serious ground water contamination could result from land development.
21. Assessment of impacts of proposed highways on springs, caves, and endangered cave-dwelling species, Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana, Virginia, and West Virginia. Similar work for airports in Missouri and Arkansas, and for coal-fired power plants in Missouri and Arkansas.
22. Identification and delineation of rare, threatened, and endangered animal species' habitats in caves and ground water systems. Studies in Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Alabama, and Illinois.
23. Health and safety assessment of Harrison's Crystal Cave, Barbados.
24. Health and safety assessment of natural radiation as encountered in caves open to the public in the United States. Development of industry standards.
25. Various microclimate, hydrologic, biologic, interpretive, and management investigations of caves in Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, New Mexico,

Resume of Thomas Aley

Arizona, California, Wyoming, Oregon, Alaska, British Columbia, New Zealand, and Australia.

26. Evaluation of 19 sites for designation as National Natural Landmarks; sites are in Indiana, Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa, Ohio, and New Mexico.
27. Assessment of hydrologic impacts of rock quarries. Multiple sites in Missouri, Arkansas, Maryland, Illinois, Alabama, and Alaska.
28. Assessment of the impacts of deep mining on regional hydrology. Missouri.
29. Preparation of sole-source aquifer designation petition. Missouri.
30. Delineation of wellhead protection zones for public ground water supplies in Arkansas, Missouri, Alabama, South Dakota, New Hampshire, Maryland, and Florida.
31. Feasibility study for creation of a national-scale American Cave and Karst Museum.
32. Instructor in numerous professional short-courses. These have included:
 - 1) over 20 four-day courses in karst hydrogeology and groundwater monitoring sponsored by the Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers and by Environmental Education Enterprises;
 - 2) two courses on groundwater site investigation techniques for health department professionals in Washington State; and
 - 3) courses on land management in karst terrains for resource managers in West Virginia, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, Utah, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and New Mexico.

PUBLICATIONS

1. _____. 1962. Analytical review of Gurnee, Russell; Richard Anderson; Albert C. Mueller; and Jose Limeras. 1961. Barton Hill Project; a study of the hydrology of limestone terrain. National Speleological Society Bulletin. Vol. 23, Part I. 30p. Review in Cave Notes, Vol. 4:4, pp. 32-33.
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A CONCEPTUAL CHARACTERIZATION OF THE SUBSURFACE MOVEMENT OF TOXIC CHEMICALS IN SOLUBLE ROCK LANDS

Tom Aley and **Danny Halterman

In the past few years we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of soluble and fractured rock groundwater problems which were associated with toxic chemicals. These have included chemicals such as polychlorinated biphenols (PBC's), 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (commonly called TCDD or dioxin), heavy metals (including chromium, copper, and other plating wastes), and radioactive isotopes.

Soluble rock landscapes, and to some extent certain fractured rock landscapes, have some unique groundwater features not typical of other regions. As a result, the subsurface movement of toxic chemicals in soluble rock areas can be dramatically different from what would be anticipated in a more hydrologically homogeneous environment. It has been our experience that these differences are seldom appreciated by the management-oriented people who are responsible for dealing with toxic chemical contamination. As a result, thousands of dollars have been wasted in poorly conceived study programs, monitoring plans, and pollution control strategies.

The purpose of this paper is to provide the reader with a general characterization and workable understanding of how toxic wastes move through the subsurface in soluble rock areas. To some extent, this characterization is also applicable to some fractured rock landscapes, and the reader should keep this in mind even though fractured rock landscapes will receive no specific attention in this paper. Furthermore, we urge that our conceptual characterization not be used in lieu of chemical-specific and site-specific investigations.

There are three factors of critical importance in determining the subsurface movement of toxic chemicals in soluble rock lands. These factors are: 1) the nature of the chemical, 2) the nature of the groundwater recharge system, and 3) the nature of the groundwater system.

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**Consultant to the Ozark Underground Laboratory
in biochemistry.

THE NATURE OF THE CHEMICAL

Toxic chemicals are commonly associated with industrial and municipal waste sites. The physical properties areas varied as their sources, and understanding the nature of these chemicals and their interactions is essential to predicting their behavior in groundwater systems.

There are tremendous differences in the water solubility of toxic chemicals. Toxic chemicals which we have encountered can range in water solubility from less than 2 parts per billion to totally soluble. People often tacitly assume that toxic chemicals with low water solubilities will not cause adverse impacts in groundwater systems because of the assumed dilution which occurs within these systems. In soluble rock landscapes, this assumption is not only invalid. At a minimum, the assumption is less valid in soluble rock areas underlain by a more uniform porous media (such as alluvium or sandstone).

In cases involving toxic chemicals included in landfills, dumps, or industrial discharges, one must consider not only the solubility of the chemical in water, but also its solubility in other liquids present at the site. It sometimes occurs that a toxic chemical has a very low solubility in water, but a high solubility in certain solvents. These solvents, in turn, can have a high solubility in water.

There are also great differences in the adsorptive properties of toxic chemicals with respect to soils. Chemicals with low adsorptive tendencies are likely to remain available for transport in solution through a groundwater system. Conversely, other toxic chemicals have high adsorption tendencies and readily adhere to soil and clay particles. If they encounter suitable soil particles with suitable and available adsorbing surfaces, they can be rather rapidly removed from waters moving through the subsurface.

The chemical stability of toxic chemicals in groundwater systems is also important. The stability of a compound may be influenced by a range

of condition found in the eu ircrJ: ienc. Aaesa-
mnt of stability based upon condition■ encoll\tered
on the surface, however, do not necessarily reflect
conditions encountered in the ■ubaurfaca. In un-
derground tcncl ion5 : for instance, ultTa-violet
irradiation (frou the ■un) ia absent; al.Inlight
irradiation of chloTinated hydrocarbon■ can be an
lmpor ant destTuctive m chanl&c.

!he stable temperature of the subsurfac■ environment
is another condition enhancing stability of compound.
chat would othen, ise deteriorate in the temperature
excr meo of the surface.

B cc rial degradation of suma compo nds is yet an-
oher impocanc destructive mechanism. Bacterial
abundance decreases byard rs of magnitude as on
progresses deepeL into the ground. Bacteria are
most abundant in the lesflitter and uppetlllost f
inches of the soil. It has been our experience
that toxic chemicals tend to be significantly moTe
stable in deeper ubsurface nvroncents than in
surface and near-surface envlronents.

Other p op rties and chaYacteriscics of toxic che-
micals are also imporc&nt in assessing their pocen-
tial for subsurface igration and creation of harm-
ful impacts in soluble cock areos. Kouever, mosc
of these differences do no vary bet een soluble
and insoluble rock areas. or bet een surface and
subsurface conditions. Fo this teason we will
not discuss these prope.rtie.s :md chac-.acteristics
in this paper.

NATURE OF THE GROUNDWATER RECHARGE SYSTEM

In soluble rock landscapes, the movement of w3ter
into che groundwater syste is typically non-
unifor11. As a resulc. the subsurfa e: movement of
toxic chemicals will also be non-unifoan.

Groundwater r charge is che movement of water from
the surface to ard the groundwater s t m which
underlies the land. tn oat soluble rock lands,
it is our opinion tht roundwateT recharge can be
divided into t""o classes; 1) discrete recharge,
and 2) diff se recharge. The distinctions between
discrete and diffuse Tcharge is discussed in de-
tail by Aley (1977).

Discrete recharge, which could also be called con-
centrateU recharge, is the conc n rat d and rela-
tively rapid movement of recharge Yater toward the
sround""ateT system. Oescrete rech3rge is loc liz.ed;
it occurs in discrete areas. Substantially greater
quantiti of wateT per unit 2.rea enter the ground- wa-
ter sysc.etn through d'screte recharge zo:es than through
diffuse recharge.

Diffuse recharg refers to th general and rela-
tively slo &epage and pe colation of cecharge
ater to a d the groundwater system. Dtfuse re-
charge, by definl ion, is not conc ntrated flow.

Discrete recharge zones nave a much greater oten-
tial for transporting roxic chericals in solution
CoYard the groundwat r system chan do diffuse re-
i:charge a.re.as. Thi.? primary rea.son far this is chac
discrete recHl'C'ge zones pr:ivide less ef (eccive
adsorrt,lon tan do diffuse c-ch.arge are.as. There
arl! three eA7lanati ns ror chis dffer-ence.

rhe first explanation for the difference 1■ that
fiow rates ,hrough discrete recharge zoue■ are
typically much more raptd than chraugh diffuse
recharge areas. Asan exam;le, surface ninfall
1n the Ozarkll recharging through diacrcite re-
charge conea causes major flow increa... in near-
by spring■ within af.... hours of the praclpitation:
the diffuse flow component 1■ delayed ao.d greatly
attenuated (Aley, 1 77). The rapid tranoit ti...s
which characterize discrete recharge w ter■ pTo-
vtdc lea■ time for adsorption by soil particle■
than ia the case with diffuse recharge tonu.

The seconde:g,lanation is chat discrete recharge
zones caDaDonly have been flushed of much of the
fine te tured ma,erlals which could potentially
adsor> to>=ic.che:iticals from C\Jmt.aml.a.acd vater;
diffue recharge areas have not been flushed. It
appears likely that \Water velociticethrc,uch dio-
crece rechArge ioncs occasionally are rapid enough
and consist of enough water to vraseut turbulent
flow conditions capable of cran o tir.g sub t n-
tial quantilit!:S of' cdimeat throur.h :lrd our of
the discrete recha se zones.

The thitd explan.:ition is th '\t adsuq;t;.\,..n of toxic
chemicals by soils increases with in..-rr.sl l:: jn
the amount ifpocenti :11 :.Jds.,rbitt; scr[ace 3n'...i
e.ncountet"cd. Contiminzed """" L:"will, :11C1U B1..r
a much smaller area of :;ot-binP., surfa:cs in <ll.:
crete rech.irge i:ons (whic:11 arc C\Jftglosed l1cia.irily
of conduic.s) than in diff use rcchnr c areas (whr
intergr.lnular v.:icer movement prcdon:ir.:H.<s). No
data have been assembled ro uantify chc differ-
ence 1n adsorbin-g urfacc ar as bctw cn distrc e
and diffuse cccharg zones. but itls Gur belief
that the Ji f fere.nccs. could commonly be t'n to
One hundred fold.

An mentioned earli r, discre e r ch.- rge ion<?S T
capable of transporting materials in s spnsiou;
diffus recharge areas Te not. Bec usc of th s
distinction. toxic chtmicals ad orbcd on clay par-
ticles c n be tr;n ported c ruu h dLscrec r -
recharge zone. cu the gr-ound- :r.ti&t' system. This re-
presents a sub "Jrfar.ctTantport system which
generally doe5 nee exist except ia soluble c=k
landscapes In our experience, this tr nspolc
mechanism has seldom eceived anyattention-

Clay particles, hich are typically s ll r than
Cour mi- rors l:;ili3 metl:"r.irlnbe tT.1 \ported into
and through groundwater systems in olubl rock
areas. We believe that toxic chc.c,ical at!sorption
on suspe d d clay par icles is commonly an impor-
tant mec.hanis.m o! to Y.ic chellical tra,nsport in
scuble Tock lands. Lyaopodiwn spores are a
ccund..it tet' :racing agent ""llich ihe r.ctio r outhor
has used on a n umber of occasions {Ale} and Flt:c-
cher, 1976). These spori!s have a mea diameter
of 33 microns, thus they are substanttally larg r
than th less than four micron dia.. eter clay par
ticles onto which toxic chemicals can be adsorbed.
Both spares and clay par i les ill traveln su -
c:nsin:cl..a d a:10 thro:gh grui,"ld.J.1P:" systems;
if anything, the clay particles 111 c nd t e-
main in suspensor. for longer p rinds o! ime in
calm aters chan will the S?ores.

'Th: st:lnior al;th r t:am: traced Lycopoc;uHl :lipcro:s
from s nkholes and sicking st ca s spr ogsas

far as 39.5 miles distant from the injection site. In addition, spores have been successfully traced from a septic field to a domestic water supply well, and from two wells which penetrated shallow caves to a major cave stream half a mile away.

Toxic chemicals with moderate to high water solubility and low to moderate adsorption tendency, will most commonly receive the majority of their subsurface transport in solution. Toxic chemicals with low water solubility and moderate to high adsorption tendency, will most commonly receive the majority of their subsurface transport in suspension if local subsurface conditions are conducive to sediment transport.

NATURE OF THE GROUNDWATER SYSTEM

Groundwater recharge contributes water to the groundwater system. It is the movement of water through the groundwater system which is the topic for this section of the paper.

A good conceptual model for dealing with groundwater in soluble rock areas should recognize that there are two components of the groundwater system. The terms "water in storage" and "water in transit" have been used to characterize these two components (Aley, 1977).

Water in storage generally fits the conventional view of groundwater. Water in storage is characterized by slow lateral movement. In distinct contrast, water in transit is characterized by rapid lateral movement, commonly only at rates of from several feet per hour to several hundred feet per hour. It would be illogical to label water moving at these rates through a groundwater system as water in storage. This rapidly moving water is in transit, not storage. Obviously, the two classes (water in storage and water in transit) are a continuum, for even the water in storage has some movement. Rather than hang ourselves with semantics, which is totally unnecessary for the purposes of this discussion, we propose that flow rates equal to or in excess of one foot per hour indicate water in transit, and rates less than one foot per hour represent water in storage.

Based on Missouri studies (Aley, 1977), discrete recharge zones tend to contribute most of their waters to water in transit. Diffuse recharge zones contribute water both to water in transit and water in storage.

In general, water in transit is underground for a shorter period of time than is water in storage. In addition, contaminants introduced into water in transit tend to come as pulses through the groundwater system. In general, contaminants receive less dilution in waters in transit than they do in waters in storage. These distinctions between water in storage and water in transit are of vital importance in assessing the potential for subsurface movement of toxic chemicals.

In this more soluble rock groundwater systems one does not generally encounter abundant particles capable of adsorption, although some exceptions to this generalization undoubtedly occur. It there is a difference in contaminant exposure

to adsorbing particles within soluble rock groundwater systems, we anticipate that water in storage would be exposed to more adsorption than would water in transit. In general, most adsorption will occur above the groundwater system (in other words, within the groundwater recharge system).

If toxic chemicals in solution reach the soluble rock groundwater system, we should expect them to move widely through the groundwater system. Toxic chemicals entering through discrete recharge zones will contribute primarily to the water in transit component of the groundwater system; those of the toxic chemicals introduced within discharge areas pulses from springs draining the area. Toxic chemicals in solution entering through diffuse recharge zones will typically be detectable at springs before they are detectable in wells, although they will ultimately be found both in springs and wells. Concentrations in springs and wells will be a function of the flow system; we cannot develop a generalization as to whether concentrations should be greater in springs or in wells since this is a site-specific question.

Toxic chemicals adsorbed on soil particles can reach the groundwater system through discrete recharge zones. Discrete recharge zones tend to contribute most of their waters to the water in transit component of the groundwater system; as we have demonstrated through the use of *Lyccopodium* spores, water in transit can transport suspended materials. As a result, toxic chemicals adsorbed on soil particles which enter the groundwater system should be expected to discharge from springs. They will settle and not be transported through the water in storage system. Since wells normally are extracting water in storage, toxic chemicals adsorbed on soil particles will seldom be recovered from such wells.

We have characterized the likely movement of toxic chemicals in subsurface waters in soluble rock landscapes in an attempt to develop as many general conclusions about toxic chemical movement in such landscapes as we could. Numerical verification for our conceptual characterization is generally lacking, yet the characterization fits our field experience in cases involving subsurface movement of toxic chemicals in soluble rock areas.

We believe that our conceptual characterization will provide management oriented people with a better general characterization of subsurface toxic chemical movement in soluble rock lands than presently exists. However, general characterizations can only provide general help in dealing with problems of subsurface movement of toxic chemicals in soluble rock lands. Our conceptual characterizations should not be used in lieu of chemical-specific and site-specific investigations. We believe, however, that this conceptual characterization can be of substantial value in guiding the design of investigations; it has been our experience that such guidance for soluble rock

landscapes is urgently needed.

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Standard Guide for Design of Ground-Water Monitoring Systems in Karst and Fractured-Rock Aquifers¹

This standard is issued under the designation D 5717. It is subject to revision without notice. The year of publication is indicated in the title. The number in parentheses indicates the year of publication. A number in parentheses indicates the year of publication. A number in parentheses indicates the year of publication. A number in parentheses indicates the year of publication.

INTRODUCTION

This guide for the design of ground-water monitoring systems in karst and fractured-rock aquifers promotes the design and implementation of accurate and reliable monitoring systems in those settings where the hydrogeologic characteristics depart significantly from the characteristics of porous media. Variances from government regulations that require on-site monitoring wells may often be necessary in karst or fractured-rock terranes (see 7.3) because such settings have hydrogeologic features that cannot be characterized by the porous-media approximation. This guide will promote the development of a conceptual hydrogeologic model that supports the need for the variances and aids the designer or governmental reviewer in establishing the most reliable and efficient monitoring system for such aquifers.

Many of the approaches contained in this guide may also have value in designing ground-water monitoring systems in heterogeneous and anisotropic unconsolidated and consolidated granular aquifers. The focus of this guide, however, is on unconfined karst systems where dissolution has increased secondary porosity and on other geologic settings where unconfined ground-water flow in fractures is a significant component of total ground-water flow.

1. Scope

1.1 Justification—This guide considers the characterization of karst and fractured-rock aquifers as an integral component of monitoring-system design. Hence, the development of a conceptual hydrogeologic model that identifies and defines the various components of the flow system is recommended prior to the design and implementation of a monitoring system.

1.2 Methodology and Applicability—This guide is based on recognized methods of monitoring-system design and implementation for the purpose of collecting representative ground-water data. The design guidelines are applicable to the determination of ground-water flow and contaminant transport from existing sites, assessment of proposed sites, and determination of wellhead or springhead protection areas.

1.3 Objectives—The objectives of this guide are to outline procedures for obtaining information on hydrogeologic characteristics and water-quality data representative of karst and fractured-rock aquifers.

1.4 This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

- D 653 Terminology Relating to Soil, Rock, and Contained Fluids²
- D 5092 Practice for Design and Installation of Ground Water Monitoring Wells in Aquifers¹
- D 5254 Practice for Minimum Set of Data Elements to Identify a Ground-Water Site¹

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 For terms not defined below, see Terminology D 653.

3.2 Descriptions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 aliasing—the phenomenon in which a high-frequency signal can be interpreted as a low-frequency signal or trend because the sampling was too infrequent to characterize the signal.

3.2.2 conduit-pipe-like opening—formed and enlarged by dissolution of bedrock and that has dimensions sufficient to sustain turbulent flow under ordinary hydraulic gradients.

3.2.3 dissolution zone—a zone where extensive dissolution of bedrock has occurred; void size may range over several orders of magnitude.

3.2.4 epikarst—a zone of enhanced bedrock-dissolution immediately beneath the soil zone; characterized by storage of water in dissolutionally enlarged fractures and bedding planes, and that may be separated from the phreatic zone by

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-19 on Soil and Rock and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D19.1 on Ground Water and Vadose Zone Investigations.

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¹ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol. 04.08.

² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol. 04.09.

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a relatively wau:rlless interval locally breached by vertical vadose flow.

J.2.5 *fractured-rock aquifer*-an aquifer in which flow of water is primarily through fractures, joints, faults, or bedding planes that have not been significantly enlarged by dissolution.

3.2.6 *karst aquifer*-an aquifer in which all or most now of water is through one or more of the following: joints, faults, bedding planes, pores, cavities, conduits, and caves, any or all of which have been significantly enlarged by dissolution of bedrock.

3.2.7 *karst terrane*-a landscape and its subsurface characterized by flow through dissolutionally modified bedrock and characterized by a variable suite of surface landforms and subsurface features, not all of which may be present or obvious. These include: sinkholes, springs, caves, sinking streams, dissolutionally enlarged joints or bedding planes, or both, and other dissolution features. Most karsts develop in limestone or dolomite, or both, but they may also develop in gypsum, salt, carbonate-cemented sandstones, and other soluble rocks.

3.2.8 *overflow spring*-a spring that discharges generally intermittently at a ground-water stage above base flow (compare with underflow spring).

3.2.9 *rapid flow*-ground-water flow with a velocity >0.001 m/s.

3.2.10 *secondary porosity*-joints, fissures, faults, that develop after the rock was originally lithified; these features have not been modified by dissolution.

3.2.11 *sinkhole*-a topographic depression formed as a result of karst-related processes such as dissolution of bedrock, collapse of a cave roof, or flushing or collapse, or both, of soil and other sediment into a subjacent void.

3.2.12 *slow flow*-ground-water flow with a velocity <0.001 m/s.

3.2.13 *swallet*-the hole into which a surface stream sinks.

3.2.14 *tertiary porosity*-porosity caused by dissolutional enlargement of secondary porosity.

3.2.15 *tracer*-a substance added to a medium, typically water, to give it a distinctive signature that makes the medium recognizable elsewhere.

3.2.16 *underflow spring*-a spring that is at or near the lowest discharge point of a ground-water basin and that usually flows perennially (compare with overflow spring).

4. Significance and Use

4.1 *Users*--"This guide will be useful to the following groups of people:

4.1.1 Designers of ground-water monitoring networks who may or may not have experience in karst or fractured-rock terranes;

4.1.2 The experienced ground-water professional who is familiar with the hydrology and geomorphology of karst terranes but has minimal familiarity with monitoring problems; and

4.1.3 Regulators who must evaluate existing or proposed monitoring for karst or fractured-rock aquifers.

4.2 *Reliable and Efficient Monitoring Systems*-A reliable and efficient monitoring system provides information relevant to one or more of the following subjects:

4.2.1 Geologic and hydrologic properties of an aquifer;

4.2.2 Distribution of hydraulic head in time and space;

4.2.3 Ground-water flow directions and rates;

4.2.4 Water quality with respect to relevant parameters; and

4.2.5 Migration direction, rate, and characteristics of a contaminant release.

4.3 Limitations:

4.3.1 This guide provides an overview of the methods used to characterize and monitor karst and fractured-rock aquifers. It does not address the details of these methods, field procedures, or interpretation of the data. Numerous references are included for that purpose and are considered an essential part of this guide. It is recommended that the user of this guide be familiar with the relevant material within this guide and the references cited. This guide does not address the application of ground-water flow models in the design of monitoring systems in karst or fractured-rock aquifers. The use of flow and transport models at fractured-rock sites summarized in Ref (1) ⁴ provide a more recent comparison of fracture and transport modeling.

4.3.2 The approaches to the design of ground-water monitoring systems suggested within this guide are the most appropriate methods for karst and fractured-rock aquifers. These methods are commonly used and are widely accepted and proven. However, other approaches or methods of ground-water monitoring which are technically sound may be substituted if justified and documented.

5. Special Characteristics of Karst and Fractured-Rock Aquifers

5.1 Karst and fractured-rock aquifers differ from granular aquifers in several ways; these differences are outlined in 5.2. Designing reliable and efficient monitoring systems requires the early development of a conceptual hydrogeologic model that adequately describes the flow and transmission characteristics of the site under investigation. Section 5.1 outlines various approaches to conceptualizing these systems and 5.4 contains subjective guidelines for determining which conceptual approach is appropriate for various settings.

5.2 *Comparison of Granular, Fractured-Rock, and Karst Aquifers*-Table 1 lists aquifer characteristics and compares the qualitative differences between granular, fractured-rock, and karst aquifers.¹ This table represents points along a continuum. For this guide a karst aquifer is defined as an aquifer in which most flow of water is through one or more of the following: joints, faults, bedding planes, pores, cavities, conduits, and caves, any or all of which have been significantly enlarged by dissolution of bedrock (2). For this guide a fractured-rock aquifer is defined as an aquifer in which the flow is primarily through fractures that have not been significantly enlarged by dissolution. Fracture is "a general term for any break in rock, whether or not it causes displacement, due to mechanical failure by stress. Fractures include cracks, joints, and faults" (J). The following factors must be evaluated to properly characterize an aquifer's position in the continuum.

⁴The boldface numbers given in parentheses (1, 2, 3, etc.) refer to the end of the text.

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TABLE 1. Comparison of Granular, Fractured, and Karst Aquifers

Aquifer Characteristics	Aquifer Type		
	Granular	Fractured Rock	Karst
Effective Porosity	Mostly primary, usually intergranular pores	Mostly secondary, rough joints, fractures, and bedding plane openings	Mostly primary/secondary porosity modified by dissolution; pores, bedding plane fractures, and caves
Isotropy	More isotropic	Probably anisotropic	Highly anisotropic
Homogeneity	More homogeneous	Less homogeneous	Nonhomogeneous
Flow	Slow, laminar	Possibly rapid and possibly turbulent	Usually rapid and likely turbulent
Flow Predictions	Carey's law usually applies	Darcy's law may not apply	Carey's law rarely applies
Storage	Within saturated zone	Within saturated zone	Willis' zone and epikarst
Recharge	Dispersed	Primarily dispersed, well-point recharge	Ranges from almost completely dissolved to almost completely point recharge
Temporal Head Variation	Minimal variation	Moderate variation	Moderate to extreme variation
Temporal Water Chemistry Variation	Minimal variation	Minimal to moderate variation	Moderate to extreme variation

5.2.1 Porosity—The type of porosity is the most important difference between these three types of aquifers. All other differences in characteristics are a function of porosity. In a granular aquifer, effective porosity is primarily a consequence of depositional setting, diagenetic processes, texture, and mineral composition while in fractured-rock and karst aquifers, effective porosity is a secondary result of fractures, faults, and bedding planes. Secondary features modified by dissolution comprise tertiary porosity.

5.2.2 Isotropy—Fractured-rock and karst aquifers are typically anisotropic in three dimensions: Hydraulic conductivity can frequently range over several orders of magnitude, depending upon the direction of measurement. Ground water in anisotropic media does not usually move perpendicular to the hydraulic gradient, but at some angle to it (4, 5).

5.2.3 Homogeneity—The variation of aquifer characteristics within the spatial limits of the aquifer is frequently large in fractured-rock and karst aquifers. Hydraulic conductivity differences of several orders of magnitude can occur over very short horizontal and vertical distances.

5.2.4 Flow—Flow in fractured rocks that are not significantly soluble is dependent upon the number of fractures per unit volume, their apertures, their distribution, and their degree of interconnection. Aquifers with a large number of well-connected and uniformly distributed fractures may approximate porous media. In these settings, the equations describing flow in granular media, based on Darcy's law, are

sometimes applicable. Fractured-rock aquifers have a few localized highly transmissive fractures. Or fractures zones that exert a dominant control on ground-water occurrence and movement are not accurately characterized by the porous-media approximation: they more closely resemble karst aquifers. Ground water moves through most karst aquifers predominantly through conduits formed by dissolution and fractures enlarged by dissolution that occupy a small percentage of the total rock mass. Ground-water flow in the rock mass is both intergranular and through fractures that have not been significantly modified by dissolution. Such flow is usually only a small percentage of the volume of water discharging from the aquifer, though it provides most of the storage (6).

5.2.4.1 It was formerly thought, after the work of Shuster and White (7), that conduit flow was dominant in some aquifers, and diffuse flow was dominant in others. The diffuse-flow dominated regime was thought to be characterized by low variation in hardness, turbidity, and discharge as measured at a spring. It is now recognized that the variations of these parameters are due to the aquifer boundary conditions, such as the number of sinking stream inputs or whether the spring is an underflow or overflow spring (8, 9, 10).

5.2.4.2 The terms *rapid flow* and *slow flow* should be used rather than *conduit flow* and *diffuse flow*. The latter terms are ambiguous when used in reference to karst aquifers because they have been used to describe types of flow within an aquifer, types of recharge, and types of spring-flow as affected by recharge events, as well as flow hydraulics, and water chemistry. Rapid flow takes place in conduits >5 to 10 mm in diameter (1 l) where velocities generally exceed 0.001 m/s. The slow-flow component of karst aquifers typically yields flow in conduits >0.001 m/s (10). Such rapid flow can also occur in open fractures. Flow in the rock matrix and through fractures that have not been significantly modified by dissolution is typically slow (<0.001 m/s). However, flow in conduits and fractures can also be slow.

5.2.5 Storage—In most aquifers, ground water is stored within the zone of saturation (phreatic zone); however, karst aquifers can store large volumes of ground water in a part of the unsaturated (vadose) zone known as the epikarst (subcave zone) (12, 13, 14). The epikarst, the uppermost portion of carbonate bedrock, commonly about 10 to 15 m thick, consists of highly fractured and dissolved bedrock (see Fig. 1). Highly permeable vertical pathways are formed along intersections of isolated vertical fractures. The epikarst behaves as a locally saturated, sometimes perennial, storage zone that functions similarly to a leaky capillary barrier or a perched aquifer, but it is commonly not perched on a lithologic discontinuity. Flow into this zone is more rapid than flow out of it, as only limited vertical pathways transmit water downward.

5.2.6 Recharge—In granular aquifers, recharge tends to be broadly distributed and an aquifer's response to a given recharge event tends to be damped by movement of the recharging water through the unsaturated zone. Generally there is some temporal lag between a recharge event and a resultant rise in water-table: water-table fluctuations in granular aquifers rarely range more than a few meters. By contrast, in karst and fractured-rock aquifers with minimal

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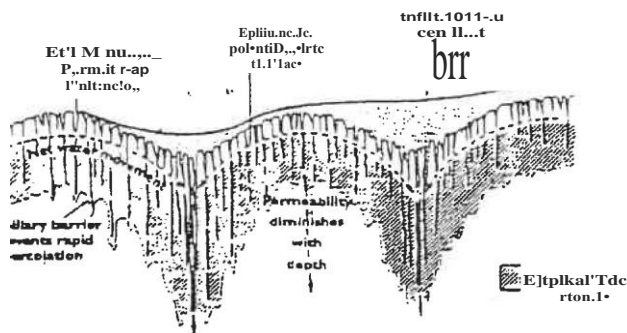


FIG. 1 CrQss-Section II1us1ralin9 Epikarsic Zone in Carbonate Terrane (14)

unlithified overburden, recharge lends 10 bc rapid: water-levels may rise within minutes of the onset of the storm and water-table fluctuations may range up to many tens of meters. Karst and fractured-rock aquifers with thick unlithified overburden may have a long tempoTal lag similar to that of granular aquifers. Recharge may be distributed through a areally extensive network of fractures or through soil (*dispersed recharge*), or it may be concentrated at points that connect directly to the aquifer (*point recharge*). The percentage of point recharge of an aquifer strongly influences the character and variability of its discharge and water quality (10, 14).

5.3 Conceptual Models of Ground-Water Flow in Fractured-Rock and Karst Aquifers:

5.3.1 Three conceptual models of ground-water flow can be used to characterize fractured-rock and karst aquifers: continuum, discrete, and dual porosity. A hydrogeologic investigation must be conducted to determine which model applies to the site of interest.

5.3.2 The continuum model assumes that the aquifer approximates a porous medium at some working scale: (sometimes called the "equivalent porous-media" approach). In this approach, the properties of individual fractures or conduits are not as important as the properties of large regions or large volumes of aquifer material. The porous-medium approximation implies that the classical equations of ground-water movement hold at the problem scale, that knowledge of the hydraulic properties of individual fractures is not important, and that aquifer properties can be characterized by field and laboratory techniques developed for porous media. The discrete model assumes that the majority of the ground water moves through discrete fractures or conduits and that the hydraulic properties of the matrix portion of the aquifer are unimportant. Measurement of the hydraulic characteristics of individual fractures or conduits are used to characterize ground-water movement. The dual-porosity model or ground-water flow lies somewhere between that of the continuum and discrete models. A dual-porosity approach attempts to characterize ground-water flow in individual conduits or fractures as well as in the matrix portion or the aquifer.

5.3.3 These theoretical models are useful tools for conceptualizing ground-water flow in fractured-rock and karst aquifers. However, the design of a ground-water monitoring system must be based on empirical data from the site to be

monitored. It is important to realize that standard hydrogeologic field techniques may not be valid in fractured-rock and karst aquifers because many of these techniques are based on the continuum model. The following section provides subjective guidelines for determining which conceptual approach will best characterize ground-water flow in the aquifer under investigation.

S-4 Subjective Guidelines for Determining the Appropriate Conceptual Model:

5.4.1 The question of which conceptual approach is most suitable for a given aquifer is somewhat a question of scale. Implicit in the porous-medium approximation is the idea that aquifer properties, such as hydraulic conductivity,

porosity, and storativity, can be measured for some representative elementary volume (REV) of aquifer material and that these values are representative over a given portion of the aquifer. For granular aquifers and some densely-fractured aquifers, the REV is likely to be encompassed by standard field-monitoring devices such as monitoring wells. In such aquifers, the continuum approach is appropriate for site-specific investigations provided aquifer heterogeneity is adequately characterized. The porous-medium approximation is not a valid conceptual model for those fractured-rock and karst aquifers where flow is primarily through widely-spaced discrete fractures or conduits. (14, 15, 16).

5.4.2 The discrete approach is most appropriate for those aquifers where there is a great contrast between matrix and fracture or conduit hydraulic conductivity. The dual-porosity approach is most appropriate for those aquifers where the matrix is relatively permeable and yet there are discrete zones of higher conductivity such as dissolution zones, fractures, or conduits.

5.4.3 Determining which conceptual model is appropriate for a given aquifer requires that an investigator determine the influence of fractures and conduits on the flow system. Existing data may provide valuable information. However, relevant and appropriate site-specific field investigations are necessary to fully characterize the flow system.

5.4.4 Below is a list of subjective criteria that can be used to help determine which conceptual ground-water flow model is appropriate for use at a given site. Reference (3) lists several criteria for determining whether the continuum approach is appropriate for a fractured-rock aquifer; these are summarized in 5.4.1 to 5.4.5. Additional criteria for determining the applicability of the porous-medium approximation in karst aquifers (5.4.8) are provided by Ref (2). All of these guidelines are subjective because fractured-rock and karst aquifers range from porous-medium-equivalent to discrete fracture or conduit-dominated systems. The decision as to which conceptual model is most appropriate will always require professional judgment and experience.

5.4.5 *Ratio of Fracture Scale to Site Scale*-For porous-medium-equivalent aquifers, the observed vertical and horizontal fractures should be numerous, the distance between the fractures should be orders of magnitude smaller than the size of the site under investigation, and the fractures should show appreciable interconnection.

5.4.6 *Hydraulic Conductivity Distribution*-For porous-medium-equivalent settings, the distribution of hydraulic conductivity, as estimated from piezometer slug tests or from specific capacity analyses, tends to be approximately log-

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normal. In aquifers where the hydraulic conductivity distribution is strongly bimodal or polymodal, the porous-medium approximation is probably not valid. It is also possible to obtain a log-normal distribution of hydraulic conductivity for wells in those aquifers that do not fit the porous-medium approximation (see 6.5) because most wells are preferentially completed in high-yielding zones. In addition, hydraulic conductivity values vary with the scale of measurement (16, 17, 18, 19) and slug tests completed in open boreholes will yield averaged hydraulic conductivities that do not represent the full variability in hydraulic conductivity.

5.4.1 Water-Table Configuration-For porous-medium-equivalent aquifer, a water-table map should show a smooth and continuous surface without areas of rapidly changing or anomalous water levels. In particular, the water table should not have the "stair-step" appearance that can occur in sparsely fractured rocks with large contrasts in hydraulic conductivity between blocks and fractures, nor should the map exhibit contours that appear to "V" upgradient, where no topographic valley exists. In such settings, flow within a conduit may be affecting the configuration of the water table. Although the "stair-step" or "v-shaped" anomalies (for an example, see Ref (20) clearly indicate a failure of the porous-medium approximation, a smooth water table does not prove a porous-medium-equivalent setting because the density of measuring points may not be sufficient to detect irregularities in the water-table configuration (see 6.J. 1.1).

548 Pumping Test Responses-There are several criteria for determining how closely a fractured-rock aquifer approximates a porous medium by using an aquifer pumping test.

5.4.8.1 The drawdown in observation wells should increase linearly with increases in the discharge rate of the pumping well.

5.4.8.2 Time-drawdown curves for observation wells located in two or more different directions from the pumped well should be similar in shape and should not show sharp inflections, which could indicate hydraulic boundaries.

5.4.8.3 Distance-drawdown profiles that are highly variable (for example, distant points respond more strongly while nearby points have little or no response) indicate that the porous-media approximation is not valid.

5.4.8.4 A plotted drawdown cone from a pumping test using multiple observation wells should be either circular or near-circular (elliptical). Linear, highly elongated, or very irregular cones, in areas where no obvious hydraulic boundaries are present, indicate that the assumption of a porous medium is invalid.

549 Variations in Water Chemistry-Large spatial and temporal variations in the chemistry of natural waters can be observed in fractured-rock and karst aquifers because of the rapid movement of water through discrete fractures or solution conduits. The coefficient of variation of specific conductance (or hardness) of spring and well water is a function of the percentage of rapid versus slow recharge to an aquifer and can be used to infer that percentage except where anthropogenic influences will impact the conductivity of the recharging water (8, 9, 10).

5.4.9.1 Many wells and springs, particularly those used for public water supply, are sampled on a regular basis for such parameters as temperature, pH, specific conductance, hard-

ness, turbidity, and bacteria. If sampling results indicate large, short-term fluctuations in any of these parameters, the porous-medium approximation should not be assumed.

5.4.9.2 The first sentence of the preceding paragraph assumes that the short-term fluctuations are on the order of hours or days are not a consequence of installation of pumping or other "throttling" methods.

5.4.9.1 Water-supply wells and springs are often sampled on a monthly basis and while monthly variation in water-quality parameters may provide a general indication of whether the aquifer behaves as a porous medium, water-quality variations in response to recharge events are frequently a better test of the porous-medium approximation. In order to determine the validity of the Porous-medium approximation at a monitoring point, observe and record at least two, and preferably all, of the following: spring discharge or hydraulic head, turbidity, specific conductance, and temperature, preferably a day before, during, and for several days or weeks after several major recharge events. If the water becomes turbid and the other parameters show rapid and flashy responses to the recharge event, the porous-medium approximation is most likely not valid. A bimodal or polymodal distribution of daily or continuous measurements of specific conductance (14, 21) also indicates that the porous-medium approximation may not be valid.

5.4.10 Presence of Karst Features-The presence in the same contiguous formation within several kilometres of a site of landforms such as sinkholes, sinking streams, blind valleys, and subsurface features such as caves and dissolutionally enlarged joints, indicates a degree of dissolutional modification that probably invalidates the porous-medium approximation and denotes a karst terrain. As a generalization, if there is carbonate rock, it is highly probable that there is both a karst terrane and a karst aquifer. If a carbonate aquifer has been or is presently subaerially exposed, and if total hardness is less than 500 mg/L, then a rapid-flow component and a karst aquifer are present (10).

5.4.11 Variations in Hydraulic Head-Monitoring wells in granular media tend to exhibit predictable and minor changes in hydraulic head in response to recharge events. In fractured-rock and karst aquifers it is not uncommon to see large variations in head in immediate response to recharge events. The degree of response of hydraulic head in a given well is dependent upon the size of fractures or conduits encountered by the well and the directness of their connections to surface inputs.

5.4.11.1 Aquifers with a high contrast in hydraulic conductivity over short distances can exhibit non-coincident water levels in closely spaced wells that are screened or open over the same vertical interval. In karst and fractured-rock terrane such non-coincident water levels indicate that the porous-medium approximation is probably not valid.

5.4.12 Borehole Logging-Several borehole logging techniques can help determine if high-permeability zones are present within a borehole. The presence of such zones suggests that the aquifer is not a porous-medium equivalent. Zones of high permeability are indicated by the following:

5.4.12.1 Presence of open fractures or dissolution features as indicated by a caliper log, borehole television logs (for example, Ref (22)), or acoustic televiewer (23).

5.4.12.2 Significant variation in specific conductance or

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temperature as interpreted from borehole logs (for example, Ref (24)).

5.4.12.3 Significant variations in borehole fluid movement as measured by a flow meter in a pumped or unpumped well (for example, Refs (25, 26, 27, 18)).

5.4.12.4 Significant increase in porosity within a rock unit that otherwise has a constant porosity as measured by a porosity (neutron-neutron) log; and

5.4.12.5 Significant decrease in density within a rock unit that otherwise has a consistent density as measured in a density (gamma-gamma) log.

6 Hydrogeologic Setting

6.1 Hydrogeologic characterization of fractured-rock and karst aquifers is complicated by the presence of high-permeability fractures, conduits, and dissolution zones that exert a controlling influence on ground-water flow systems. Locating and characterizing these high-permeability zones can be logistically difficult if not impossible, because conduits, dissolution zones, or subsurface fractures that transmit a large percentage of the flow may be as small as a few millimetres in size. Benson and Yuh (29) note that borings alone are inadequate for subsurface characterization in karst settings. They provide some insights into the number of borings required for locating a subsurface cavity by noting the detection probabilities. The example they provide is that "if a 1-acre site contains a spherical cavity with a projected surface area of 1/10 acre (a site to target ratio of 10), 10 borings spaced over a regular grid will be required to provide a detection probability of 90%. Sixteen borings will be required to provide a detection probability of 100%. . . for smaller targets, such as widely spaced fractures, the site-to-target ratio can increase significantly to 100 or 1000, thus requiring 100 to 1000 borings to achieve a 90% detection confidence level" (29).

6.1.1 In granular media, the monitoring well is the standard measuring point for both obtaining representative ground-water samples and determining aquifer properties. However, the discrete and dual-porosity conceptual models require an investigator to identify sampling points and perform aquifer tests or tracer tests, or both, that do not rely on the porous-medium approximation (continuum approach). In karst and fractured-rock settings, an investigator cannot assume that a monitoring well will provide representative data either for water-quality or aquifer characteristics (14, 30, 31). Tracer tests (see 6.7) are one of the most valuable tools for determining ground-water flow directions and velocities because the interpretation of these tests does not require the porous-medium approximation (continuum approach).

6.1.2 This section discusses the importance of understanding stratigraphic and structural influences on ground-water flow systems (see 6.2); location and characterization of fracture patterns and karst features (see 6.3); delineation of ground-water basin boundaries and flow directions (see 6.4); applicability of geophysical techniques (see 6.5); and measurement of aquifer characteristics (see 6.6).

6.2 *Regional Geology and Stratigraphy*—The design of a ground-water monitoring network should include a determination of how the site fits into the regional geologic setting because regional stratigraphic and structural patterns provide

the constraints within which the local ground-water flow system is developed.

6.2.1 *Sources of Data*—Information on regional geology and hydrogeology, (that is, geologic maps, stratigraphic cross-sections, geophysical logs from nearby sites, cave maps, water-table or potentiometric-surface maps, long-term records of water levels or water quality in monitoring wells) can be obtained from both published and unpublished sources including federal and state publications, academic theses and dissertations, journal articles, and available consultants' reports. Additional information can be obtained from local land owners, quarry operators, highway departments, local construction firms, as well as geologic logs, drillers' logs, and well-construction reports from domestic wells. Data on the number, distribution, and construction of domestic wells are best obtained by house-to-house survey. State and federal files for most areas rarely include more than a small percentage of the wells that exist. The most information about caves can be obtained from consultation with the National Speleological Society whose members compile information on a state-by-state basis.

6.2.2 *Integrating Geologic Information With Flow-System Characteristics*—When reviewing the existing data, an investigator should take extra note of any information that indicates the presence of conduits or high permeability dissolution or fracture zones (see guidelines outlined in 5.4). The initial hydrogeologic characterization should include a survey of bedrock outcrops in the area. Special attention should be paid to the relationships between stratigraphy and structure and the distribution of lineaments; fracture patterns, karst landforms, sinkhole alignments, and hydrologic features such as seeps or springs.

6.2.3 Stratigraphy:

6.2.3.1 In any layered rock sequence, either sedimentary rocks or layered volcanics, stratigraphy can be a controlling factor in the development of zones of enhanced flow of ground water. Bedrock characteristics including the presence of caves, should be examined in order to determine the stratigraphic position of springs, seeps, caves, zones of dissolution, or zones of intense fracturing.

6.2.3.2 In fractured carbonate terranes, the development of conduits and dissolution zones is most commonly controlled by bedding plane partings rather than vertical fractures. Dissolution preferentially develops along bedding planes with substantial depositional unconformities, planes with shale laminae or thicker partings, and planes with nodules or beds of chert (14). The relationship of shale beds or other low-permeability units to hydrologic features should be noted. These units cannot be assumed to provide effective barriers to ground-water flow because in fractured-rock and karst terranes they are frequently breached by fractures or shafts (32). In carbonate terranes, interbedded shales are frequently calcareous and hence subject to dissolution; in addition, shale beds may enhance dissolution, because of oxidation of included sulfides and production of sulfuric acid (9).

6.2.3.3 In layered volcanic terranes, interbedded basalts and pyroclastic deposits become important to the hydrologic setting.

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Pyroclastic deposits can range greatly in terms of primary porosity and hydraulic conductivity due to differences in welding and the development of secondary fracturing. In general, ash-flow mounds in the upper portions of flows exhibit high values of porosity and permeability (33). In rhyolite basalts, the interflow zones (top of one flow and bottom of overlying flow) tend to be zones of high porosity and high conductivity due to primary depositional features such as flow breccias, clinkers, shrinkage cracks, flow-top rubble, and gas vesicles" (33). In rhyolite basalt terranes, tubes or conduits (lava caves) should be suspected, and although these features will usually be influential only in the shallow zone, they could cause preferential flow similar to a conduit system in a karst terrane. Springs are also common in volcanic rocks; their location is determined by topography, structure, and depth to ground water.

6.2.3.4 In regions with no quarries, accessible caves, and few bedrock outcrops, geologic characterization will have to be based on information obtained from drilling. Core drilling provides a good record of both subsurface stratigraphy and fracture distribution in areas of good core recovery. However, core recovery often fails in zones of poor rock quality or in areas with extensive voids. An alternative approach for such situations is to drill destructively (without coring) and then log the hole with applicable geophysical techniques (that is, gamma, resistivity, or conductivity for stratigraphy, and caliper and television for fractures). While vertical boreholes provide useful information about horizontal fractures and dissolution zones, angle drilling with collection of oriented core can be used to better characterize vertical and near-vertical fracture systems, and steeply dipping beds (34). A review of existing well logs, including geophysical logs, should note stratigraphic zones where circulation was lost during drilling, where enhanced yields were obtained during well development or aquifer tests, and where open or mud-filled cavities or fractures were encountered.

6.2.4 Structure:

6.2.4.1 Structural features commonly associated with concentration of ground-water flow include anticlines, synclines, and faults. Anticlines are important because extension of joints along their crests can favor development of joint-controlled conduits. Synclines tend to concentrate flow, usually with down-dip input to a conduit located close to the base of the trough (14). Faults, especially faults formed by extension, can concentrate ground-water flow, provided that they have not been filled by secondary mineralization (14). Faults can also provide barriers to ground-water flow if secondary mineralization or fault gouge is extensive or if a low-permeability fault block truncates an aquifer.

6.2.4.2 In dipping carbonate rocks (that is, 2 to 5° or more), initial ground-water flow is commonly downdip with eventual discharge along the strike of the beds. In these settings there is substantial evidence that strike-aligned flow is common, and can extend up to tens of kilometres. When designing monitoring systems in these settings, discharge points along the strike must be located even if they are several kilometres away from the site to be monitored. In dipping carbonate strata, depth of ground-water circulation is influenced by fissure frequency, down-dip resistance to flow, ground-water basin length, and angle of dip (9, 14).

6.2.4.3 In crystalline rocks, fractures are typically most

abundant near the land surface; fracture density diminishes with depth. However, high-permeability fractures have been found at depths greater than 1500 m (35). Water-table configuration and hence ground-water flow direction in these settings appears to be topographically controlled (36). Enhanced well-yields indicate that the zones of enhanced ground-water flow occur along fracture traces, at the intersection of fracture traces and in valley bottoms which are probably fracture-controlled (36, 37). Reference (37) also notes that "sheet joints", subparallel to the land surface at shallow depths and horizontal at greater depths, may play an important role in ground-water movement in plutonic rocks.

6.3 *Field Mapping and Site Reconnaissance*-In areas where the surficial materials are thin or absent, high-angle fractures and the location of large karst features can sometimes be mapped from topographic maps and aerial photographs. Most fractures and many karst features are not recognizable on topographic maps or air photos and field mapping will be necessary to locate them. Field reconnaissance, completed early in the project, is an important component of site investigation and is essential for the identification of open fractures, swallets, small sinkholes, springs, and cave entrances. (A detailed discussion of fracture-mapping methods can be found in Ref (38). Fractures and karst features will have a large impact on the subsurface hydrology, even if their surface expression is slight. Field mapping can provide detail on the distribution of karst features and on fracture orientation and density. However, it gives little information about the distribution of fractures or conduits at depth.

6.4 *Determination of Ground-water Flow Directions, Velocities, and Basin Boundaries*-Water-table or potentiometric-surface maps, or both, are used to estimate the direction and rate of ground-water and contaminant movement in [1] Tertiary aquifers. Such estimates are complicated in fractured-rock and karst aquifers. Even porous-medium-equivalent fractured-rock aquifers frequently exhibit significant horizontal anisotropy, which can make prediction of ground-water flow directions difficult. Some fractured-rock aquifers respond rapidly enough to recharge events that temporary ground-water mounding may develop and lead to reversals of flow directions. The concept of a "water-table" becomes less clearly defined in those fractured-rock and karst systems where there are discrete high-permeability zones in a much lower-permeability matrix. In these settings, the fractures and conduits respond quickly to recharge events and may spill over into empty, higher-lying conduits or fractures while the lower-permeability portion of the aquifer remains unsaturated.

6.5 Variation of Hydraulic Head:

6.5.1. *Potentiometric-Surface Mapping*-Constructing a potentiometric-surface map with water levels from existing wells assumes the following: vertical hydraulic gradients are not significant, and the well intersects enough fractures or conduits to provide a representative water level for the aquifer. If significant vertical gradients are present, construction of a potentiometric-surface map will require screening out of apparent anomalies in water levels resulting by measuring water levels from wells cased at different depths in an aquifer's recharge and discharge zones (39). The elevation of base-level springs, lakes, and streams should be regarded

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as possible data points for a potentiometric map, provided it can be established that they are not perched.

6.5.1.1 When constructing a potentiometric map based on field-measured water levels, it is necessary to measure water levels in all representative accessible wells over a short time-interval. Data from existing wells may be adequate, provided well-construction information is available, and the water-levels are evaluated with respect to the length and depth of the open interval. Depending on the nature of the investigation and the level of detail required, it may be necessary to install additional wells.

6.5.1.2 It is difficult to state a universal rule that unambiguously specifies the appropriate contour interval or the density and distribution of data points that are needed for construction of a potentiometric map. The steepness of the hydraulic gradient guides the choice of contour interval and the data density should be such that, on average, no more than two to three contour lines are interpolated between data points.

6.5.1.3 Contaminants in karst terranes can quickly travel several kilometres or more. Therefore, it is necessary to extend potentiometric maps significantly beyond property boundaries in order to determine the likely extent and direction of contaminant travel, and to increase the accuracy of the map.

6.5.2 Vertical Distribution of Hydraulic Head:

6.5.2.1 The vertical component of flow should be considered in the delineation of ground-water flow direction. Ground-water flow systems typically have a downward flow component in recharge areas that gradually becomes horizontal before changing to upward flow in discharge areas. In granular and porous-media equivalent aquifers, vertically nested or closely spaced piezometers along the flow path are sufficient to describe these gradients.

6.5.2.2 In karst aquifers, the matrix, fractures, and conduits each have very different vertical flow regimes which can be difficult to characterize. For some karst aquifers, recharge is concentrated at very specific points (for example, at sinkholes and swallets of sinking streams) that feed a complex network of conduits. Whether flow is predominantly horizontal or vertical at various points along the flow path is controlled by hydraulic head, the geometry of the conduit system, and location of the discharge point. The **degree** of connection between the fractured and matrix portions of the **aquifer** and the conduits will be a function of fracture density, primary porosity, extent of dissolution, and hydraulic gradient. Characterization of the vertical component of flow in conduit-dominated aquifers requires locating point inputs and point discharges, determining the vertical component of flow in the fractured and matrix portions of the aquifer, and evaluating the degree of connection between the fractured and matrix portions of the aquifer and the conduits.

6.5.3 Temporal Changes in Hydraulic Head:

6.5.3.1 The response of springs or wells to recharge events is useful for characterizing an aquifer. On the continuum from porous-media-equivalent aquifers to discrete fracture or conduit-dominated aquifers, head variations in the latter tend to increase in magnitude; lag times to the hydrograph peak after the recharge event tend to decrease. In brief, flow in aquifers with numerous direct surface inputs (point

recharge) and discrete fractures or conduits is more flashy than in those aquifers where direct surface inputs are minimal. Individual well-responses to recharge events can be used to indicate the degree of connection between the well and the fracture or conduit system.

6.5.3.2 Complex responses to recharge events commonly occur in fractured rock and karst aquifers. Flow-system configurations can change dramatically in response to recharge events. In karst aquifers, as deeper conduits fill, ground water may spill over to higher conduits and discharge to a different ground-water basin than it does during low-flow conditions (30, 40). Moderately permeable fractured-rock aquifers may also exhibit such ground-water flow reversals if temporary groundwater mounds develop (40).

6.5.3.3 Investigators working in fractured-rock and karst aquifers need to assess whether temporal changes in hydraulic head can lead to changes in ground-water flow direction or the position of ground-water basin boundaries. The frequency of water-level measurements needs to be determined by the variability of the system rather than by reporting requirements. Continuous water-level records on representative wells are recommended in the early phase of the investigation; after monitoring the response of an aquifer to several recharge events, the measuring frequency can then be adjusted.

6.6 Determination of the Directions and Rates of Ground-Water Flow:

6.6.1 *Flow Directions*—Water-table and potentiometric surface maps are valuable guides for predicting ground-water flow directions. However, the predicted flow directions will be correct only if the assumption of two-dimensional flow is valid and anisotropic aquifer characteristics, if present, are taken into account. In some fractured-rock aquifers and most karst aquifers, the assumption of two-dimensional flow is probably not valid and anisotropy ratios are frequently unavailable for site-specific scales (15, 18). In some cases the potentiometric surface can provide a reasonable first approximation for the delineation of ground-water flow directions and basin boundaries, but this approximation must be confirmed with tests that are not dependent on the assumption of two-dimensional flow. Such confirmation can be provided by properly conducted tracer tests performed on both sides of a proposed boundary, as shown by Quinlan and Ewers (40) and discussed by Quinlan (30, 31).

6.6.2 *Flow Rates*—It is usually inappropriate to use water-table or potentiometric surface maps to predict regional or local ground-water flow rates in fractured-rock and karst aquifers. Such calculations assume that the porous-media approximation is valid, flow is two-dimensional, and the hydraulic conductivity distribution is relatively homogeneous. While these conditions might be met over very short distances, they are rarely, if ever, met for site-specific or larger areas. See 6.9 for a discussion of aquifer characteristics. Flow rates are directly determined from the results of aquifer-scale or site-scale tracer tests.

6.7 Use of Tracer Tests:

6.7.1 Tracer tests are a valuable tool for characterizing flow of fractured-rock and karst aquifers. They can yield empirical information about ground-water flow directions, flow rates, flow destinations, and basin boundaries. The results of these tests depend on the conservative nature of the tracer, its

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unambiguous detectability, proper test design and execution. and correct interpretation.

6.7.2 Two broad classes of tracers; have been used: labels and pulses, both of which can be usefully subdivided into natural and artificial tracers. The purpose of the labels is to enable identification of the investigator's water which serves as a surrogate for a pollutant. The purpose of pulse-tracing is to be able to send an identifiable signal through the ground-water system. A partial outline of tracers that has been used can be found in Table 2.

6.7.3 The various types of tracers have different advantages and disadvantages and they yield different types of information about a hydrogeologic system. As the level of sophistication of an investigation increases, comparison of the results obtained with different tracers can often yield additional information about the system properties.

6.7.4 An ideal tracer has the following properties. It is:

6.7.4.1 Non-toxic to people and the ecosystem;

6.7.4.2 Either not naturally present in the system or present at very low, near-constant levels;

6.7.4.3 In the case of chemical substances, soluble in water with the resulting solution having approximately the same density as water; (care should be taken, in the design of tracer tests, to address concerns that may arise when the pollutants of concern are light or dense non-aqueous phase liquids);

6.7.4.4 Neutral in buoyancy and, in the case of particulate tracers, with a sufficiently small diameter to avoid significant loss by natural filtration;

6.7.4.5 Unambiguously detectable in very small concentrations;

6.7.4.6 Resistant to adsorptive loss or to chemical, physical, or biological degradation, or all of the aforementioned;

6.7.4.7 Capable of being analyzed quickly, economically, and quantitatively;

TABLE 2 Types of Tracers (43)

<i>Labels:</i>
Natural
Flora and fauna (Chiefly, but not exclusively microorganisms)
Ions in solution
Environmental isotopes
Tracers
Specific concentration
Introduce
Dyes and dye-intermediates
Radiometrically detectable substances
Soluble and insoluble inorganic compounds
Spores
Fluorocarbons
Gases
A wide variety of organic compounds
Biological entities (bacteria, viruses, yeasts, phages)
Effluent and spilled substances
Organic particles, microspheres
Inorganic particles (including sediment)
Temperature
Specific conductance
Exotic (eels, ducks, mallards, fish, etc.)
<i>Properties Significantly Above Background or Above Flow Levels:</i>
Natural
Discharge (change in stage or flow)
Temperature
Turbidity
Introduce
Discharge
Temperature

6.7.4.3 Easy to introduce into the new system; and

6.7.4.4 Inexpensive and readily available.

6.7.5 Non-toxicity is the most important tracer characteristic. few tracers satisfy all of these criteria, but several of the fluorescent dyes meet most in many situations. For most settings, dyes are the most practical tracers. Toxicity studies indicate that most fluorescent dyes are not harmful in the concentrations conventionally employed in tracer tests. It has been determined that a concentration of one part per million of the most commonly used fluorescent dyes, over an exposure period of 24 h, poses no threat to human or ecosystem health (41).

6.7.6 Tracer tests are appropriate when:

6.7.6.1 Flow velocities are likely to be such that results will be obtained within a reasonable period of time, usually less than a year;

6.7.6.2 The consequences of existing or possible future ground-water contamination must be determined;

6.7.6.3 It is necessary to delineate recharge areas or ground-water basin boundaries; or

6.7.6.4 It is necessary to design or test a ground-water monitoring system, or both.

6.7.7 Tracer tests can be classified in several ways which are outlined in Table 3. Techniques for tracing ground water, with emphasis on the use of fluorescent dyes, are described and discussed in Ref (43).

6.7.8 Tracing techniques and approaches that an investigator might use vary greatly in levels of sophistication. For example, the question "Is the septic system of this house connected to the nearest sewer main?" can sometimes be adequately answered with a few pennies worth of dye and a few minutes of someone's time. Similarly, questions about the internal connections in some caves can often be answered with about the same level of resources and time. In contrast, questions about the regional-scale dispersal of pollutants from a major Superfund site in a densely populated karst terrane require a considerably greater investment of time, resources, and effort.

6.7.9 Dye-detection techniques range from visual detection, to detection by fluorometer, to instrumental analysis of water samples using a scanning spectrophotometer or (rarely) high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC).

TABLE 3 Classifications of Tracer Tests (43)

A. Degree of Quantification:
Qualitative
Semi-quantitative
Quantitative
B. Degree of Alteration of Hydraulic Gradient:
Natural gradient
Forced gradient, accomplished by:
Injection of fluids
Use of pumps, flowmeters, etc.
C. Type of Tracer:
Natural
Sinkhole or swallow
Cave, room
Artificial
From a well or other man-made source
D. Type of Recovery Site:
Natural discharge site
Spring, cave stream, etc.
Artificial discharge site
Monitoring well
One or more domestic wells

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The use of simple visual detection of dyes is now considered usually unacceptable in a major project, but it can still be a very effective demonstration of a connection in some settings.

6.8 *Geophysical Techniques*:

6.8.1 Geophysical techniques can be used in a number of ways to aid subsurface investigations and to characterize some subsurface features of karst or fractured-rock aquifers (29, 44). Surface geophysics can provide general information over a large area and can also be used to provide detailed, site-specific data. Borehole logging techniques provide localized information within and immediately around a borehole or well. Some borehole or hole-to-hole techniques can be used to detect fractures and karst features. The method or methods to be used must be selected to meet both project objectives and site conditions. Interpretations based upon surface and borehole geophysical data should be verified by other data and require experienced field crew and interpretation.

6.8.2 *Surface Geophysical Techniques*-Surface geophysics provides a means of characterizing subsurface conditions by making measurements of some physical parameter (acoustical properties, electrical properties, etc.) at the surface. Surface geophysical methods can help characterize subsurface features such as depth to rock, depth to water table, or to locate buried channels. Large structural features such as dip, folds, and faults can be located and mapped. Fracture orientation and areal variations in water quality can also be determined. Surface geophysical methods can sometimes be used to detect conduits directly if they are shallow and large enough (29, 44). Effectiveness of surface geophysical methods diminishes as the feature or interest occurs at an increasing depth and with decreasing size or the feature. Fractures or conduits that are deeper than can be detected by surface geophysical methods, can sometimes be located indirectly by using near-surface indicators (29, 45). Geophysical methods are often used to indicate anomalous conditions caused by a fracture or conduit. The anomalous conditions can then be investigated further by boreholes where the borings are focused into the anomalous area(s) and have a much better probability of encountering the fracture or conduit than a randomly placed borehole.

6.8.2.1 Surface geophysics may be a good reconnaissance tool that can be used to determine areas in need of further study. Several of the following methods may be applicable in fractured-rock and karst settings, including ground-penetrating radar, electromagnetic or electrical resistivity surveys, natural potential (SP), and or microgravity. Such methods as electromagnetics (46, 47, 48) azimuthal resistivity (48, 49), and azimuthal seismic measurements (50) can be applied to determine dominant fracture orientations.

6.8.3 *Borehole Logging Methods*-Borehole logging can be used to identify strata (for example, shale versus limestone) and to correlate stratigraphy between boreholes. These methods are particularly useful for investigation of fractured-rock aquifers because they provide detailed information about rock properties in the immediate vicinity of borehole walls. They are useful for determining water-bearing zones within a borehole and for determining hydraulic properties of inclined and horizontal fractures (see Ref (51) for general borehole logging techniques applied to ground water investigations).

6.8.3.1 Borehole logs most commonly used to correlate stratigraphy include natural gamma, gamma-gamma, resistivity (or conductivity), and spontaneous potential. Borehole methods particularly useful for locating and characterizing fractures and conduits include video, temperature, caliper, acoustic televiewer, flow meter, borehole fluid logging, and cross-hole tomography (29, 44). When budget limitations preclude the use of multiple logging techniques, it is recommended that video logging be used to determine the location and orientation of fractures and conduits to aid in the placement of monitoring well screen. Tomography carried out by radar and attenuation of higher frequency acoustic signals can be used to detect fractures and conduits.

6.8.3.2 Borehole methods are often used in conjunction with each other. Borehole diameter, well construction, and proper well development can affect the results and usefulness of borehole logs.

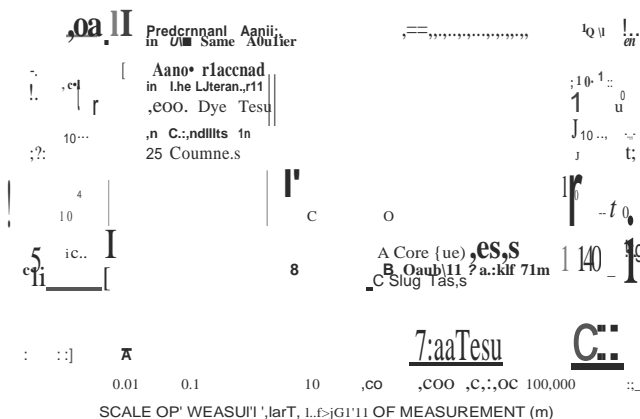
6.9 *Aquifer Characteristics*-One of the special problems of monitoring in fractured-rock or karst aquifers is that aquifer characteristics such as aquifer thickness, porosity, hydraulic conductivity, and storativity can be difficult to quantify.

6.9.1 *Aquifer Thickness*-In aquifers with mainly primary porosity, the thickness of the aquifer can frequently be defined by lithologic or stratigraphic boundaries. In fractured-rock aquifers, fracture density and aperture frequently decrease with depth and it is difficult to determine at what depth the fractures are no longer capable of transmitting significant amounts of water. Examination of cores and borehole logging data may be helpful in identifying the "productive" portion of the aquifer. Karst aquifers present similar problems in that karstification may decrease with depth or be confined to very specific zones or beds within the carbonate rock. While it is often difficult to determine the base of karstification, Worthington (9) suggests that stratal dip and length of ground-water basin can be used to estimate the mean depth of flow. Reference (52) suggests that packer tests at successively lower depths can be used for estimates of depth of karstification.

6.9.2 *Porosity*-Primary porosity can be measured on the scale of a hand sample or a core sample; secondary and tertiary porosity need to be measured at a scale that statistically represents the distribution of heterogeneities in the aquifer. For densely-fractured rock, the sample volume may be relatively small and encompassed by borehole geophysical measurement techniques, while for aquifers with widely spaced heterogeneities (that is, sparsely fractured rock or conduit systems) the huge volume of rock needed prohibits meaningful evaluations of porosity.

6.9.3 *Hydraulic Conductivity and Storage*-Hydraulic conductivity values vary with the scale of measurement (16, 17, 53). The range of hydraulic conductivities and associated ground-water velocities for karst aquifers is illustrated in Fig. 2. Hydraulic conductivity values from lab and field tests (Methods A through D) are compared to velocities of ground-water flow in conduits (Method E). The presence of conduits in a karst aquifer requires a dual-porosity approach to aquifer characterization, or at least a discrete-porosity approach, rather than a porous-medium approximation because the hydraulic conductivity would be grossly underestimated with the porous-medium approach.

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Note-The data represented by heavy bars are from a Jurassic 1 aquifer in the Swabian Alb or Germany, as described by Sauer (1991). The hatched box represents velocity data from more than 1800 dye traces from linking W&Bins to springs (flat ls, in conduits) from 25 countries (modified after 116, 69)).

AG, 2 Range in Hydraulic Conductivity and Ground-Water Velocity in Kant Aquifera as a Function of Scale of Measurement

6.9.J.1 Hydraulic conductivity in granular media is frequently evaluated by single-well or multiple-well pumping tests. Results of such tests performed in fractured-rock and karst aquifers should be interpreted with respect to the portion of the aquifer that responds and the measurement-scale effects, illustrated in Fig. 2 should be recognized. The **discrete** nature of high-conductivity zones in fractured-rock and karst aquifers can yield hydraulic conductivity values ranging over several orders of magnitude at a specific measurement scale. Figure 3 illustrates the range of hydraulic conductivity values measured from slug tests (borehole-scale) at a small site in horizontally-bedded fractured dolomite. Significant errors can occur when aquifer characterization tests are designed, conducted, or interpreted without regard to the portion of the aquifer being tested.

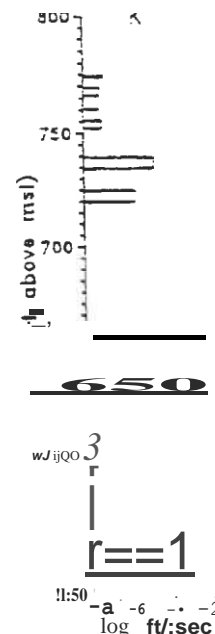
6.9.J.2 Site-specific investigations may require detailed information on the transmissivity of specific zones within the aquifer. In fractured-rock and karst aquifers, borehole **packers** can be used to **segregate** specific zones within the borehole. Slug tests and single-well pumping tests can then be performed to determine transmission characteristics of different portions of the aquifer. Borehole-fluid logging in a pumping well (24) can also help to characterize the producing zones within fractured-rock aquifers.

6.9.3.3 Measurements of transmissivity and storativity averaged over a ground-water basin in karst aquifers can be estimated from discharge rates at springs (32, 52). Such averaged parameters may be appropriate for regional assessments of ground-water resources but they are less appropriate for site-specific investigations.

7. Developing a Reliable Monitoring System

7.1 Applicable Monitoring Points:

7.1.1 Determination of applicable monitoring points will depend on which conceptual approach most accurately describes the setting under investigation. If the aquifer deviates significantly from the porous-medium approximation



Note-Elevation is 011 the vertical axis. Surface is 800 m (243.84 m) above m.s.l. The length of the bar indicates the length of the open interval. The bar indicates measured hydraulic conductivity. Hydraulic conductivity values range over five orders of magnitude (compiled from data in Ref 1171).

FIG. 3 Range of Hydraulic Conductivity Values from Slug Tests (Borehole-Scale) at a Site in Fractured Dolomite

tion, monitoring wells probably will not yield representative ground-water samples unless it is demonstrated by properly designed tracer studies and hydraulic tests that the monitoring points are connected to the site to be monitored. Alternative monitoring points (such as springs, cave streams, and seeps) are usually more appropriate in karst terranes. These natural discharge points intercept flow from a larger area than a monitoring well and, as a result, they are more likely to capture drainage from a site. Monitoring sites that integrate drainage from a large area are likely to show more dilute concentrations of contaminants than monitoring sites that intercept drainage from a small area. Monitoring of alternative sampling points requires evaluation of the significance of dilution of contaminants. Design of a monitoring system must weigh the desirability of analysis of diluted waters that are known to drain from a site versus analysis of waters that are not demonstrably derived from the site.

7.1.2 Current ground-water monitoring practices utilize both upgradient and downgradient-monitoring points in order to meet regulatory requirements. In fractured-rock and karst aquifers, rapid variations in hydraulic head can lead to changes and even reversals in ground-water flow directions (see 6.5). In these settings, determination of flow-directions from water-table or potentiometric maps may not be adequate to determine placement of monitoring points. Samples for background water-quality should be collected at springs, cave streams, and wells that yield water that is geochemically representative of the aquifer. These monitoring points might be located in an adjacent ground-water basin (30, 31". 54).

7.2 Methods of Testing Applicability of Monitoring

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Poims-Tracing studies and hydraulic tests should be used to demonstrate whether or not sampling sites are connected to the site being monitored. "Downgradient" monitoring-points cannot be assumed to intercept drainage from a site unless a positive connection from the site to the monitoring point is demonstrated.

7.2.1 Tracer Tests:

7.2.1.1 Tracer tests that monitor the presence or absence of tracer at monitoring points are usually sufficient for determining flow directions and validating monitoring points. Tracer tests in which tracer concentration is determined on samples collected at short-time intervals (that is, minutes to hours) can be used to determine optimum monitoring frequency that avoids aliasing; without this knowledge a large number of monitoring points might be sampled for contaminants more frequently or less frequently than is necessary for accurate characterization.

7.2.1.2 Measuring tracer concentrations and discharges at monitoring points can provide additional mass-balance data that will make the design or modification of a monitoring system more efficient. At sites where there are multiple flow-directions and discharges to numerous monitoring points, it is useful to know whether a majority of the site's drainage is to one or just a few of the monitoring points, as contrasted with nearly equal discharge to all of them. This mass-balance data can also be used to assess the significance of contaminant dilution.

7.2.1.3 As a general principle, the cost-benefit ratio of measuring both tracer concentration and discharge rises as the number of potential monitoring points increases. If mass-balance tracing results are deemed necessary, qualitative traces should be performed first. This may eliminate the cost of sampling and analyzing monitoring points which do not receive tracers. For a discussion of mass-balance tracing techniques as applied to the design of ground-water monitoring plans, see Refs (30, 43, 55, 56).

7.2.1.4 The mass-balance tracing technique described by Mull et al. (55), would be useful (in some settings) for evaluating the possible consequences of a spill into an open sinkhole draining to a cave stream. However, this technique is incapable of evaluating leakage from a waste disposal site. Therefore, use of this method should be limited to settings where there is point recharge directly into a cave stream.

7.2.2 Hydraulic Testing Methods:

7.2.2.1 A variety of hydraulic tests can also be used to determine the relative "connectedness" of an individual monitoring point to the fracture-flow system, connections between monitoring wells, and connection to the site being monitored. Any hydraulic testing program requires careful design because of the discrete nature of high-conductivity zones in fractured-rock and karst aquifers. Ideally, monitoring wells should intersect the producing zones that are more likely to carry contaminants from the site. However, in some cases it may also be necessary to monitor the matrix portion of the aquifer.

7.2.2.2 Packer tests and borehole logging techniques can help locate both high-conductivity and low conductivity zones within the aquifer (see 6.8.3). Pumping tests can then be designed to test the connections between various parts of the system (57). If possible, a pumping well could be placed at the source of contamination and the response of indi-

vidual monitoring wells to pumping (both rate of response and overall drawdown) could be used to determine connection to the monitoring site. Sometimes more distant wells will respond more quickly than nearby wells, indicating that they are better connected to the pumping well. Any drawdown indicates that the monitoring point is connected to the pumping well; however, it is difficult to use drawdown to assess the degree of connection. Small drawdowns could indicate a weak connection or they could indicate that the connected zone is highly transmissive (and thus difficult to draw down).

7.3 Monitoring Wells-Monitoring wells are the method of ground-water monitoring required by federal and state regulatory agencies and should always be considered as possible monitoring points in a karst or fractured-rock aquifer. Boreholes drilled onsite or at site to obtain geological information can be converted to piezometers since most ground-water monitoring plans include the installation of piezometers in order to determine the variation in hydraulic head. The piezometer can then be considered as temporary or surrogate monitoring wells. If any of the piezometers later prove to be capable of providing ground-water samples representative of the water draining from the site, they can be converted to, or replaced by, true monitoring wells that meet regulatory standards.

7.3.1 Placement of Monitoring Wells-Placement of monitoring wells should be guided by interpretation of the data gathered in the site characterization (see 6.3 through 6.9). If the aquifer is uniformly and densely fractured, monitoring well placement, construction, and development are similar to that for granular aquifers (see Practice D 5092 and Refs (58 and 60). Different placement and construction techniques are necessary for aquifers characterized by discrete high-permeability zones (enlarged fractures, dissolution zones, and conduits) that carry the majority of the water. Wells placed in these high-permeability zones are more likely to intercept drainage from a site than randomly placed wells or wells completed in low-permeability zones. In settings where the matrix blocks have appreciable porosity, it may also be important to monitor the blocks as well as the high-permeability zones because the blocks may function as storage reservoirs for pollutants.

7.3.1.1 Fracture lineaments and the intersection of vertical fractures are potential sites for monitoring wells, especially in crystalline rocks. However, in carbonate rocks, most conduits and high-permeability zones are developed along bedding planes; monitoring wells located on the basis of fracture-trace and lineament analysis are not likely to intercept major conduits. Horizontal zones of high permeability are important in determining placement of monitoring wells. If the site characterization has identified zones of enhanced permeability (that is, noted by borehole geophysical logs, loss of circulation when drilling, etc.), monitoring wells should be constructed so as to intersect these zones.

7.3.1.2 In most karst terranes, substantial flow occurs at the soil-bedrock interface and within the subjacent epikarst. Wells placed across this interface or within the epikarst may only be intermittently saturated. However, these wells are likely to intercept the early movement of contaminants from an overlying source.

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7.3.1.J Wells drilled to intersect cave streams may also function as good monitoring points. While most geophysical techniques are incapable of detecting the flow of water within conduits, the natural potential method (a type of spontaneous potential measurement) is the only geophysical method that can detect flowing water and it can sometimes be used effectively (50, 60, 61, 62).

7.3.1.4 Monitoring wells are typically constructed within the boundaries of the site to be monitored. In fractured-rock and karst aquifers, the location of high-permeability zones should guide the placement of monitoring wells even if they are located offsite.

7.3.2 Construction of Monitoring Wells:

7.3.2.1 The presence of zones of enhanced dissolution can complicate construction of monitoring wells in karst and fractured-rock aquifers. Drilling methods and well construction techniques should be chosen so as to minimize loss of drilling fluids, cuttings, or construction materials to the formation. Air-rotary drilling is one possibility if circulation can be maintained and risk of partial plugging of fissures can be tolerated; rotary drilling with over-shot casing can effectively reduce loss of fluids to a formation.

7.3.2.2 The open interval of the monitoring well should be designed to intercept zones of high-permeability. If no such zones are present, the well should be cased to the depth where competent rock is encountered and left open below that. The annular space between the casing and the borehole wall should be sealed in such a way as to minimize loss of materials to the aquifer. It may be possible to use standard well construction techniques such as a bentonite slurry or grouting to set the casing if no high-permeability zones are present.

7.3.2.3 If discrete high-permeability zones are encountered, the wells should be constructed so as to be open to those zones. When smaller-diameter monitoring wells are placed within a larger-diameter borehole, a gravel pack should be installed around the screen and an annular seal placed above the gravel pack. The gravel pack should be constructed of materials that will minimize any chemical reactions with the groundwater. Bentonite chips and pellets are recommended for the annular seal because these materials are not as easily lost to the formation as are slurries of cement or bentonite.

7.3.2.4 All materials used in monitoring-well construction should meet federal regulations (63) and state guidelines. Practice D 5092 provides general recommendations for monitoring-well construction.

7.3.2.5 *Development and Maintenance of Wells* that intersect high-permeability zones frequently exhibit high turbidity if finer particles from the fractures, conduits, and other dissolution zones are drawn into the well. These wells will require more extensive development than most monitoring wells. In many wells, turbidity may be a persistent problem, particularly during and after storm events. If siltation is a persistent problem, routine maintenance to remove the accumulated sediment may be necessary.

7.3.3 *Alternative Monitoring Points*—When tracer studies and hydraulic tests do not indicate a connection between a monitoring well and the site being monitored, the well should be considered inadequate for its intended purpose; alternative monitoring points must be used. Monitoring

water quality in seeps, springs, or cave streams shown to be connected to the site by tracing studies is one alternative. Practice D 54 provided a waiver from existing federal or state regulations can be obtained (see 1.5). Regulators are increasingly recognizing springs and cave streams as viable, efficient, and reliable monitoring points that meet the intent of the laws, even though these features may be found offsite (see 7.5.3.1). However, whenever possible, the protocols for locating monitoring points at the site should be followed. Detection of contamination prior to migration offsite, the desired monitoring goal, may not be possible if the only relevant monitoring sites are offsite. However, because cave streams and seeps are natural discharge points for ground water flowing through discrete, difficult-to-locate, high-permeability zones, monitoring at these offsite sampling points may be the only appropriate and practicable monitoring strategy.

7.3.3.1 When documenting monitoring points, vertical and horizontal coordinates should be noted (see Practice D 5254), and pertinent geologic information should be recorded. Pertinent geologic information would include such things as identifying the formation from which a spring is discharging and noting particular lithologic and structural descriptors; (for example, spring issues at intersection of vertical joint in limestone and bedding plane of a shale bed).

7.3.3.2 In carbonate terranes, the ratio between maximum and minimum discharge of a spring and the shape of the hydrographs are indications of whether a spring is classified as an overflow or underflow spring (64). In addition, Wonington (9) used the coefficient of variation of bicarbonate and sulfate to determine overflow/underflow springs. This classification is important in assessing the number of potential discharge points and monitoring points for a karst groundwater basin. If a spring is recognized as an overflow spring, it indicates the presence of underflow springs that carry some of the groundwater discharge, sometimes all of it when the overflow spring is not discharging. Both underflow and overflow springs must be included in a comprehensive groundwater monitoring network in karst terranes.

7.3.3.3 When collecting samples from alternative monitoring points, it is best to sample as close to a spring orifice or seep discharge as possible. Where possible, spring discharge should be measured and recorded whenever samples are taken. If the discharge cannot be accurately measured, stage height is an acceptable alternative, and even a visual estimate of discharge is better than no record at all. As in sampling a well, a visual description of the water sample should be recorded (for example, level of turbidity, coloration, presence of iron staining, presence of oil sheen, noticeable odors, etc.) and standard field parameters (for example, specific conductance, temperature, and pH) should be measured and recorded.

7.4 Sampling Frequency:

7.4.1 Water-quality parameters can be extremely variable in karst and fractured-rock aquifers. This is particularly true during and after recharge events that cause rapid changes in discharge at springs or rapid changes in hydraulic head at wells. Such events typically cause high-frequency, high-amplitude changes in water quality. The water-quality changes may be either in-phase or out-of-phase with dis-

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charge peaks or with each other. In order for samples to be representative of conditions in the aquifer, frequency or sampling should be selected to reflect this inherent variability rather than at pre-specified, fixed intervals as is often dictated by regulatory programs. A general discussion of sampling frequency is given in Ref (65).

7.4.1.1 The correct interpretation of the variation of water-quality data for determining proper sampling frequency cannot be done with confidence unless it is known that the results were not subject to aliasing, a phenomenon in which a high-frequency signal can be interpreted as a low-frequency signal or trend because the sampling was too infrequent to accurately characterize the signal (66).

7.4.1.2 The following discussion of sampling frequency assumes that properly designed and conducted tracer tests and hydraulic tests have identified representative down-gradient monitoring points that are connected to the site and representative background monitoring sites that are not connected to the monitored site (see 7.2).

7.4.2 Hydrographs and Chemographs—The determination of an appropriate sampling frequency should be based on interpretation of the behavior of several physical and chemical parameters at springs and wells. Plots of spring discharge (or stage) and water quality as functions of time (hydrograph and chemograph analysis, respectively) have been used extensively in karst-aquifer studies (14) as tools for obtaining information about the ground-water flow dynamics of the karst system. (In aquifers where discharge is to subaqueous springs or seeps, monitoring is difficult, but possible if they can be found.) Monitoring wells completed in fractured dolomite may also exhibit extreme temporal variations in hydraulic head and water-quality parameters and these variations can be used to characterize ground-water flow dynamics in similar aquifers (17).

7.4.3 Conventional Parameters—A suite of easily measured parameters has commonly been used to characterize the variability of water-quality in karst aquifers. These parameters include discharge or head, specific conductance, temperature, and turbidity and are recommended as a minimum set of data to be collected. They should be measured at representative monitoring points continuously, or near-continuously, for a period of several weeks to several months and at least until several major recharge events have occurred.

7.4.4 Determining Sampling Frequency for Target Compounds—When monitoring pollutant releases from a site in karst or fractured-rock aquifers, the inherent variability of the system must be considered: The natural variation of head or discharge, temperature, specific conductance, and turbidity can be used to select the appropriate sampling frequency for contaminant or target compounds. For a monitoring system, the most important question to be answered is whether the maximum concentration of the target compound exceeds an established background or regulatory-action value at the point of compliance.

7.4.5 A general procedure for determining the sampling frequency of target compounds is outlined below:

7.4.5.1 Plot discharge (stage) for a spring or head for a well, specific conductance, temperature, and turbidity against time (plot all of them on the same graph, using different vertical scales, so that they may be compared). The

continuous or near-continuous measurement of these parameters is necessary in order to prevent aliasing of the data.

7.4.5.2 Determine which parameter varies the most.

7.4.5.3 Establish the correlation and time-lag (if any) between maxima and minima of discharge (stage) or head, specific conductance, temperature, and turbidity.

7.4.5.4 Determine a sampling frequency that will capture the variability of the most-variable parameter.

7.4.5.5 Sample for the target compound(s) at this sampling frequency both at the background and at the down-gradient monitoring points. Samples should be collected through at least one major recharge event. The recharge event should be near to or greater than the average annual maximum recharge event. Samples must also be collected during baseflow conditions.

7.4.5.6 Plot the concentration of the contaminant compound(s), discharge (stage) or head, specific conductance, temperature, and turbidity against time for both high-flow and baseflow conditions. Establish the correlation and lag-time between maximum target compound concentration and the maxima and minima of discharge (stage) or head, specific conductance, temperature, and turbidity. These correlations determine the subsequent sampling frequencies for the target compounds.

7.4.5.7 If the maximum target compound concentrations are measured under baseflow conditions, periodic samples collected during lowest flow conditions may achieve the monitoring goals. If maximum target compound concentrations occur during high-flow conditions, then subsequent samples for those compounds must be collected during high flow. High-flow sampling frequency should initially be based on 7.4.5.1 through 7.4.5.4 and modified as data are collected and interpreted.

7.4.6 This procedure may indicate an optimum storm-related sampling frequency ranging from minutes to hours for some systems; sampling at this frequency is necessary through at least one major recharge event. Analytical costs can be lessened by analyzing every third sample. If the contaminant concentration data plot smoothly, it may not be necessary to analyze the stored samples; if they do not, it will.

7.4.7 At the start of a recharge event, it is impossible to know how significant it will be. At its middle or end, it is too late to collect samples that will characterize its beginning. Accordingly, it is always necessary to commence sampling at the start of an event. After the event, the decision to analyze or not to analyze the samples should be based on professional judgment and evaluation of the significance of the event.

7.5 Meeting Regulatory Goals:

7.5.1 Regulatory agencies require ground-water monitoring wells as a means of detecting statistically significant changes in water quality resulting from releases to ground water by various operations. However, alternative monitoring points such as springs and cave streams, shown to be draining from the site, may provide the most representative ground-water samples in some settings, and have been required in some states (see 7.3.3).

7.5.2 Current Federal Regulations—The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) that addresses ground-water monitoring and corrective action at hazardous-waste-disposal sites can

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be found in Re(67) (40 *CFR* Subpan F §§ 264.90 to 264.101 and 40 *CFR* Subpan B § 270.14(c)). These regulations contain specific information on monitoring ground-water quality (§ 264) and reporting requirements based on a comprehensive site investigation (§ 270). Section 264.97 specifically lists ground-water monitoring requirements that must be met in order to satisfy the requirements of § 264.98, Detection Monitoring; § 264.99, Compliance Monitoring; and § 264.100, Corrective Action. Section 270.14(c), *Additional Information Requirements*, provides for specific information to be compiled and submitted in order to meet the provisions required under §§ 264.90 through 264.101 (66).

7.5.3 *Modifications of Current Regulatory Remedial program evaluations* have shown that specifically requiring certain items (for example, monitoring wells) has led to the development of inadequate ground-water monitoring systems that are designed solely to meet regulatory guidelines. The U.S. EPA is currently considering new, more flexible guidelines/regulations that allow the use of seeps, springs, and cave streams as monitoring points to supplement a monitoring-well network. Alternative monitoring points would have to meet the performance criteria described in Ref (67) § 264.97 [for example, monitoring wells at the point of compliance Ref (66) § 264.97(a)(2) and the use of such alternative monitoring points would be based on a site investigation designed to assess the hydrogeologic conditions

of the site. These new procedures have been outlined in Reis (63, 67, 68).

7.5.J. 1 Alternative monitoring schemes have been proposed and implemented at some facilities regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), where hydrogeologic conditions did not conform to the porous-medium approximation. The reasoning behind such variances was that a monitoring system consisting solely of monitoring wells that are unable to provide ground-water samples representative of a given site would not meet the intent or spirit of the law. However, monitoring ground-water quality at alternative, offsite monitoring points, while violating the letter of the law (because the points are offsite), would meet the intent and spirit of the law. Such variances from RCRA regulations are considered acceptable for existing and interim status facilities. Variances have not been allowed for a new facility because § 264.97(a)(2) (66) stipulates that monitoring must be conducted at the point of compliance (for example, the unit boundary or facility boundary).

8. Keywords

carbonate aquifers; fractured rock; ground water; ground-water monitoring; ground-water sampling; karst; springs

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Attachment 4

Final Minerals, Geology, and Karst Resources Report
Prince of Wales Island, Alaska

El Capitan/North Prince of Wales Road
June 2004

Table 1. Summary of Dye Trace Lengths, Gradients, and Estimated Mean Velocities for the First Arrival of Tracer Dyes

From	To	Distance (feet)	Elevation loss (feet)	Mean Gradient (feet/mile)	Est. Mean Velocity (feet/day)	Trace number
Beaver Falls	Mop Spring	2,860	70	129	240	OJ-01
North Quarry	Active Spring	855	150	923	114	OJ-02
NFSR 20/27 intersection	Chango Spring	330	100	1600	>JJO	03-03
Bear's Plunge	Cataract Spring	3,270	530	855	65<i	03-04
Slide Cave	Cataract Spring	3,030	580	1,010	606	03-05
Devil's Canopy	Boiling Spring	5,020	600	630	>200	03-06
Sign Sink	Mop Spring	4,800	1JO	275	230	03-07
Historian Cave	Mop Spring	1,730	90	275	1,275	03-08
Cabbage Patch Sink	Honking Spring	3,500	280	422	J 85-875	03-09
Line of Sinks	no dye detected					03-10
Neck Lake Overlook	no discharge point identified					03-11
Dry Stream	Grass Spring	1,090	230	1,114	1,090	03-12
Flyhatch Spring	not a groundwater trace					03-13
Bearcat Spring	not a groundwater trace					03-14
Road Sink	Honking Spring	4,810	330	362	8,225	03-15
South Quarry	Cataract Spring	7,280	750	544	1,820	03-16
Short Trace Sink	Fat Man Spring	690	40	306	-8,000	03-17
Brusby Creek	Cataract Spring	10,050	940	494	3,350	03-18
Log Hole	Boss Spring	5,160	330	138	1,720	03-19
Log Hole	Large Spring	5,555	650	618	1,234	03-19
Log Hole	Cold Spring	5,655	650	607	1,200	03-19
Blueberry Sink	Fat Man Spring	2,490	360	763	950	03-20
Rack Crack	Honking Spring	5,220	JOO	303	1,815	03-21
Milepost 99	Honking Spring	5,720	390	360	2,860	03-22

The investigation also developed considerable water quality and flow data for the study area. The data is useful for selecting locations that may require more intensive monitoring. The investigations also provide a baseline to assess potential impacts due to changes in land use. The data are appended to the dye tracing report provided in Appendix A.



In cooperation with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture

.f-1/4,c Itwte 1 5 Pesticides

PESTICIDES AND NUTRIENTS IN KARST SPRINGS IN THE GREEN RIVER BASIN, KENTUCKY, MAY-SEPTEMBER 2001

MAJOR FINDINGS

- Nine different pesticides were detected in eight karst springs sampled in the Green River drainage basin.
- The five most frequently detected pesticides at all springs were atrazine (100 percent), simazine (93 percent), metolachlor (80 percent), tebuthiuron (66 percent), and prometon (58 percent).
- The pesticides detected were not necessarily the pesticides most heavily applied in the Green River drainage basin.
- Nitrite plus nitrate-nitrogen concentrations did not exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) drinking water standard (10 milligram per liter) at any of the eight springs.

INTRODUCTION

Springs located in the Green River Basin, Kentucky, are valuable natural resources and important sources of public and domestic water supplies. Ground water and springs in the Green River Basin potentially are vulnerable to increased concentrations of pesticides and nitrates associated with agricultural activities, such as pesticides and nitrates, because of the presence of karst topography. The karst topography can allow rapid recharge of flow through fractures in rock and solutional conduits, providing little opportunity for natural filtering to occur. Understanding the extent and potential severity of ground-water contamination in karst areas is therefore crucial to protecting the public and water resources in the Green River Basin.

There is potential for ground-water contamination associated with the use of pesticides and fertilizers in the Green River Basin because of the extensive agricultural development of land. By sampling the water quality of karst springs and examining the use and detections of pesticides, information can be provided to better

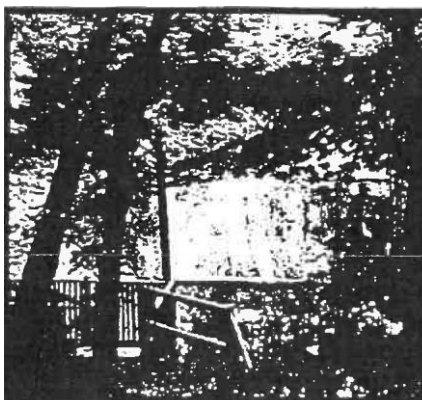
evaluate ground-water quality and agricultural nonpoint-source pollution in the Green River Basin, and assist resource managers in the planning and implementation of nonpoint-source pollution-control programs.

In 2001, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) began a 5-month study in cooperation with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture to evaluate the occurrence and distribution of pesticides and nutrients in springs in the Green River Basin. This paper summarizes data on the concentrations and frequency of detection of pesticides and nutrients in samples from eight selected springs and

presents pesticide sales data (pounds of active ingredient) from the year 2000 as a Summary Table for application reference.

FIELD AND LABORATORY METHODS

The USGS collected pesticide and nutrient samples from eight springs (fig. 1 and table 1). Samples were collected every 2 weeks during May-September 2001. General procedures for the collection of water-quality samples and equipment cleaning are described in Shelton (1994). Water samples were analyzed by the USGS National Water-Quality Laboratory in Denver, Colorado, for 50 pesticide compounds using methods described by Zaugg and others (1995). The laboratory reporting level (LRL) for detected pesticides are listed in table 2. A detailed discussion of LRL's can be found in Childress and Johnson (1999). Nutrient samples (ammonia-nitrogen ($\text{NH}_3\text{-N}$), nitrite plus nitrate-nitrogen ($\text{NO}_2 + \text{NO}_3\text{-N}$), total phosphorus (TP), and orthophosphate (orthoP) also were analyzed by the USGS National Water-Quality Laboratory using methods described in Fishman and Friedman (1989).



Lost River Blue Hole Spring near Bowling Green, Kentucky.

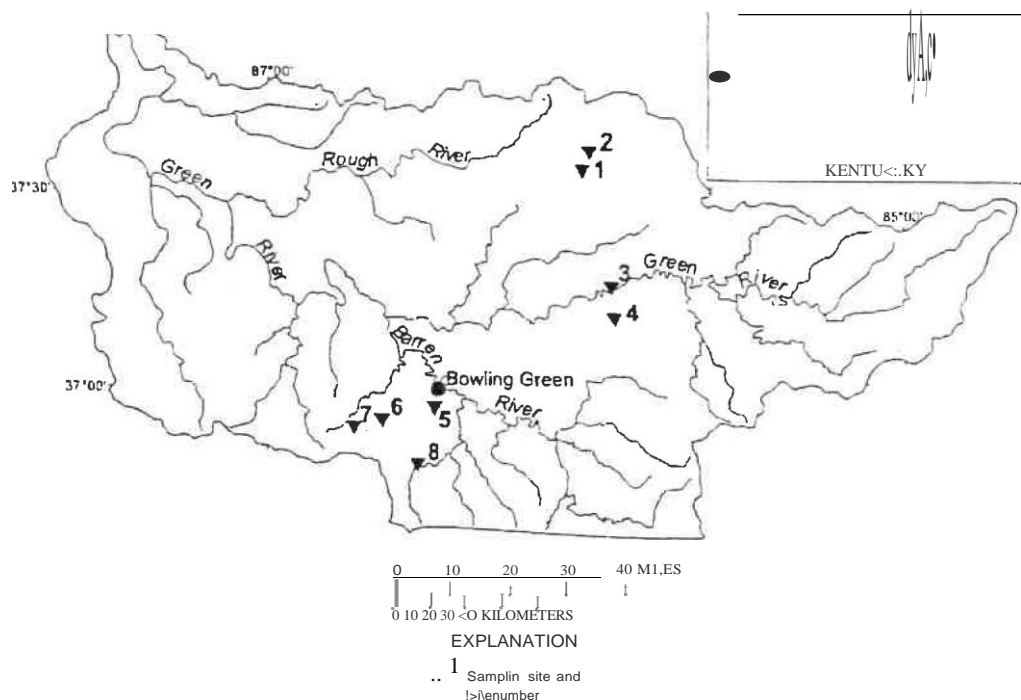


Figure 1. Location of spring-sampling sites in the Green River Basin, Kentucky.

Table 1. Selected spring sampling sites in the Green River Basin, Kentucky

[USGS, U.S. Geological Survey]

Map reference number {see fig. 1)	USGS station number	USGS station name	Latitude	Longitude	Number of samples
	373320086001601	Waddell Spring near Harcoun, Kentucky	37°33'20"N	86°00'16"W	6
2	373608085585101	Boiling Spring at Slat Mill, Kentucky	37°36'08"N	85°58'51"W	8
3	371528085545301	Gorin Mill Spring near Munfordville, Kentucky	37°15'21"N	85°51'51"W	8
4	371044085542001	Hidden River Cave at Horse Cave, Kentucky	37°10'44"N	85°54'20"W	8
5	365713086282103	Los Rios Blue Hole Spring near Bowling Green, Kentucky	36°57'13"N	86°18'21"W	8
6	365526086382501	Finney Spring near South Union, Kentucky	36°55'26"N	86°38'48"W	8
7	365415086435001	Crawford Blue Hole Spring near Auburn, Kentucky	36°54'15"N	86°43'50"W	7
8	364832066313701	Drunkies Spring near WOODBURN, Kentucky	36°48'32"N	86°31'11"W	8

Table 2. Summary of the concentrations, detection frequencies, and aquatic-life criteria of the detected pesticides in samples collected from eight springs, Green River Basin, Kentucky, May-September 2001
[µg/L, microgram per liter; --, not established]

Pesticide name	Trade name	Type of pesticide	Laboratory method reporting level (µg/L)	Detection frequency, in percent (number of samples)	Median concentration of detections (µg/L)	Maximum concentration of detections (µg/L)	Water-quality criteria for aquatic life (µg/L)
Atrazine	Harvest Plus, Surpass	Herbicide	0.0104	14 (59)	0.003	0.099	0.1
Atrazine	Atrazine, Atrazine	Herbicide	0.007	100 (59)	0.159	7.40	0.1
Chlorpyrifos	Brodan, Dursban	Insecticide	0.013	80 (59)	0.005	0.011	0.1
Metolachlor	Dual, Pennant	Herbicide	0.013	80 (59)	0.005	0.011	0.1
Metribuzin	Leisure, Sencur	Herbicide	0.013	80 (59)	0.006	0.011	0.1
Nitrofen	Debris, Napro Guard	Herbicide	0.007	3 ()	0.011	0.011	0.1
Prometryn	Pramitol	Herbicide	0.01	5 (59)	0.01	0.01	0.1
Simazine	Aquatic, Priact-p	Herbicide	0.01	93 (59)	0.019	0.10	0.1
Terbufos	Spike, Tibusan	Insecticide	0.116	66 (59)	0.011	0.1143	0.1

"Environ, Canada, 1999

"U.S. Environ, ironment, Protection Agency, 1999

"EPA, 1999

"EPA, 1999

Approximately 30 percent of the samples analyzed were quality-control samples, which included 12 field blanks, 7 concurrent replicates, 4 field spikes, and 1 laboratory blank. Field blanks were collected to ensure that no contamination occurred during sampling and processing of the samples. A blank is a type of water solution that is intended to be free of the analytes of interest. Concurrent replicates were used to evaluate the reproducibility of the laboratory analytical techniques. A concurrent replicate is a type of sample collected simultaneously by use of two or more samplers. Field-spike samples were used to determine bias as a result of matrix interference. A spike is a type of sample in which known amounts of pesticides are added to water. Quality-control-sample results indicated good laboratory performance and no systematic contamination.

PESTICIDES

Pesticides have become an integral part of controlling insects, weeds, fungi, and bacteria in both agricultural and urban settings. The use of pesticides has increased over the last 40 to 50 years, which has resulted in increased crop production and controlled public health hazards (Larson and others, 1997); however, there are increased concerns about the possible harmful effects of increased pesticide concentrations on the environment and human health.

Of the 50 pesticides analyzed, 8 herbicides and 1 insecticide were detected at or above a common method reporting level (CMRL) of 0.01 micrograms per liter (pg/L) at the 8 springs. A CMRL allows the detection frequencies of pesticides to be compared to each other. Adjusted data, using a CMRL, were used to compare detection frequencies, whereas unadjusted data were used in statistical analyses. The detected pesticides in the springs were atrazine, simazine, metolachlor, tebutiuron, and

prometon (fig. 2). Based on estimated pesticide sales data for agricultural applications in 2000, a total of 1.5 million pounds of herbicides (fig. 3) and 18,000 pounds of insecticides (fig. 3) were applied in the Green River Basin (Ernest Collins, Kentucky Department of Agriculture, written commun., 2001).

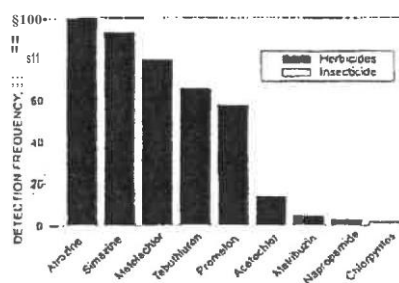


Figure 2: Detection frequencies for selected herbicides and insecticides at eight spring-sampling sites in the Green River Basin, Kentucky.

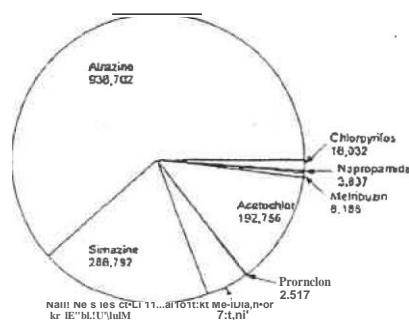


Figure 3. Estimated sales data for 2000 (in pounds per active ingredient) of selected herbicides and insecticide in the Green River Basin, Kentucky.

The pesticides detected were not necessarily the pesticides most heavily applied (in pounds of active ingredient) in the Green River Basin. Acetochlor, a restricted-use pesticide, was found in only 14 percent of the samples, but was one of the most heavily applied pesticides (table 2 and fig. 3). It should be noted that pesticide-sales data were used as a surrogate for actual pesticide-application rates. Whereas sales data are a good indication of intended use, they do not necessarily reflect actual pesticide use (Barbash and Resek, 1996).

Only six of the listed pesticides in table 2 have an aquatic-life criterion assigned to them by the USEPA (1999a) or the Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers (Environment Canada, 1999). An aquatic-life criterion is a numerical criterion designed to prevent unacceptable long-term (years and decades) and short-term (days and weeks) effects on aquatic organisms. Atrazine, a restricted-use pesticide, was the only pesticide detected at concentrations greater than its established aquatic-life criterion of 1.8 µg/L (table 2).

The maximum concentrations of four pesticides were detected in samples collected at Finney Spring: atrazine (7.40 µg/L); metolachlor (0.343 µg/L); napropamide (0.011 µg/L); and simazine (0.210 µg/L) (table 2). Maximum concentrations of acetochlor (0.099 µg/L), chlorpyrifos (0.011 µg/L), metribuzin (0.011 µg/L), and tebutiuron (0.043 µg/L) were observed at Lost River Blue Hole Spring. The maximum concentration of prometon was observed at Gorin Mill Spring (0.468 µg/L). Median concentrations of selected pesticides ranged from 0.004 to 0.159 µg/L (table 2).

NUTRIENTS

More than 60 water samples were collected at the eight springs and analyzed for nutrient species: ammonia-nitrogen (NH₃-N), nitrite plus nitrate-nitrogen (NO₂+NO₃-N), total phosphorus (TP), and orthophosphate (orthoP). Concentrations of NH₃-N were at or below the method reporting level of 0.04 milligram per liter (mg/L) of N (fig. 4a), except for Crumford Blue Hole and Finney Spring.

Nitrite and nitrate are inorganic ions produced during various stages of the nitrogen cycle. Nitrate is the most predominant ion in well-oxygenated water because of the rapid oxidation of nitrite. Concentrations of nitrate

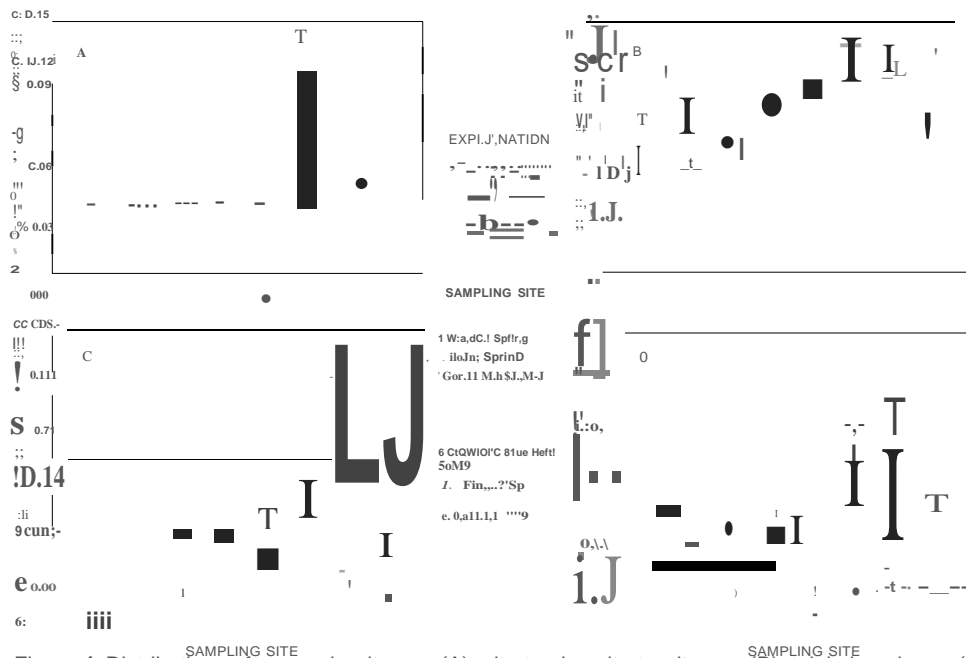


Figure 4. Distributions of ammonia-nitrogen (A), nitrate plus nitrate-nitrogen (B), total phosphorus (C), and orthophosphate (D) concentrations in eight springs in the Green River Basin, Kentucky.

greater than 10 mg/L in drinking water can have adverse human-health effects, especially to infants whose digestive systems convert nitrate to nitrite thereby reducing the oxygen-carrying capacity of blood and resulting in methemoglobinemia (blue-baby syndrome) (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1999b). Nitrite plus nitrate-nitrogen concentrations from the eight springs ranged from 2.92 to 8.39 mg/L (fig. 4b). The highest $\text{NO}_2 + \text{NO}_3 + \text{N}$ concentration was measured at Finney Spring (fig. 4b). This high concentration could be a localized effect possibly caused by land use; further study is needed to determine this effect.

Although there is no established aquatic-life criterion for dissolved phosphorus, the USEPA recommends a maximum concentration of total phosphorus of 0.1 mg/L to discourage excessive growth of aquatic plants and algae. Total phosphorus concentrations in 13 percent of the samples were greater than 0.1 mg/L. The highest TP concentration among the springs sampled was 0.28 mg/L in Finney Spring (fig. 4c). The high TP concentrations possibly were associated with high values of turbidity measured at this site because phosphorus can adsorb to sediment

particles. The median concentration of TP for all springs sampled was 0.06 mg/L. Orthophosphate concentrations ranged from 0.02 to 0.18 mg/L (fig. 4d).

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Attachment 6

GROUNDWATER TRACING STUDY OF STUPPERICH SPRING AND VICINITY

February 4, 1998

Thomas Aley, PHG & CF
Ozark Underground Laboratory

An investigation conducted for Dr. John Brown, AIR, Inc., 7900 O' Neal Drive, Columbia,
MO 65202.

Introduction

This report details the results of a groundwater tracing study conducted in an area south of Fordland, Missouri. Herbicide was sprayed on a 1/4 section of Section 25, T28N, R1 9W of Webster County, Missouri. The area which was sprayed was located along the east side of a county road which runs generally north-south through portions of Section 25 and 36, T28N, R1 9W. The county road basically follows an unnamed valley (which in this report I will call County Road Valley) for most of its length. It is my understanding that, subsequent to and shortly after the herbicide spraying, plants in a greenhouse business located in the NE 1/4 of Section 36, T28N, R1 9W in Christian County, Missouri, were damaged or died. It is also my understanding that plant damage or mortality persisted or occurred from time to time for some appreciable period after the initial onset of phytotoxicity.

The source of water for the greenhouse operation was a perennial spring which I will call Stupperich Spring in this report. This spring discharges at the base of a hill on the west side of County Road Valley. This spring has perennial flow as is demonstrated by the presence of watercress (*Nasturtium officinale*) in the waters which discharge from the spring. I estimated the flow rate of the spring at 30 gallons per minute on January 6, 1998.

The correspondence between the herbicide spraying and the plant damage and/or plant kills at the greenhouse operation clearly suggested that the powerline spraying caused the damage. However, an independent hydrological verification that the powerline which was sprayed with herbicide traverses an area which contributes groundwater to Stupperich Spring was desired.

Hydrogeologic Setting

The geologic map of Webster County, Missouri (Thomson, 1986) indicates that the herbicide spraying was primarily done in areas underlain by the Pierson Formation. This is primarily a limestone unit and is the host rock for many springs and caves in Webster and Christian Counties. The highest elevation portions of the sprayed area are underlain by the Elsey Formation; this is a limestone unit with abundant chert. Beneath the Pierson Formation is the Northview Formation which is a unit with appreciable amounts of shale. Permeability of the Northview Formation is typically low. As a result, many springs in the region discharge from locations near the base of the Pierson Formation; this is the setting for Stupperich Spring.

Karst groundwater systems are those located in soluble rock areas (such as limestone areas) in which there is appreciable groundwater movement through dissolved openings in the bedrock. Karst areas commonly have hydrologic features such as sinkholes, losing streams, and springs. County Road Valley and SLU founding lands are clearly located in a karst area: there are many sinkholes, springs, caves, and losing streams in the area. Furthermore, County Road Valley is a local karst area.

valley. One of several indication of this is a spring which we have caHed Powerline Spring. It is located on the powerline corridor and immediately adjacent to the eastern edge of the county road. This spring is located about 18 inches above the bonom of the intermittent stream channel that flows on the east side of the county road. Powerline Spring had an estimated flow rate of 30 gallons per minute on January 6, 1998. Water from this spring flows toward the south along the road ditch On January 6, 1998 the entire flow of this spring was disappearing into the groundwater system between the spring and a point approximately 300 feet downstream.

For locational purposes we numbered all electric power poles located along County Road Valley and south of an east-west trending road passing through Section 25. For simplicity in explaining locations we will assume that the powerline runs in a north-south direction, and that the northern-most pole is Pole I. Pole 9 is the southern end of the electric line along which the herbicide spraying occurred. Pole 9 has a transformer hung on it and is the pole immediately north of the mobile home to which this power line is run. Powerline Spring is located between Poles 6 and 7 and is approximately 90 feet north of Pole 7. All distances are approximate and are used to help identify the locations of particular features of interest.

Groundwater Tracing Study

A groundwater tracing study *was* conducted to verify that lands on which herbicides were applie for powerline purposes do in fact yield waters to Stupperich Spring.

Sampling Stations

Six sampling stations were established for the dye tracing study. They were as follows:

Station I. Rockledge Spring. This is a small internittent spring located about 100 feet west of the road which traverses County Road Valley. The spring can be easily reached by leaving the road between Poles 8 and 9. The estimated flow rate of this spring on January 6, 1998 was 6 gallons per minute.

Station 2. Powerline Spring. This is an intenninent spring described earlier; it is readily visible from the county road. This spring is located between Poles 6 and 7. The estimated flow rate On January 6, 1998 was 30 gallons per minute.

Station 3. West Side Spring. This spring has two primary discharge points; they are both 15 to 20 feet in elevation above the floor of the County Road Va[ley. West Side Spring is located on the west wall of County Road Valley and essentially straight across the valley from ' Stat ion 4 (Bubbling Spring). The estimated flow rate of West Side Spring on January 6, ! 998 was 135 gallons per minute. The spring has a small amowlt of watercress present. so there is apparently a very small amount of perennial flow from this spring.

Station 4. Bubbling Spring. This imenninent spring is located about 550 feet south of Pole 9 on the east side of County Road Valley . The spring discharges immediately adjacent to the road from a pool that is about two feet in elevation above the road ditch. The es,imated flow rate of this spring was 60 gallons per minute on January 6, 1998.

Station 5. Srupperich Spring. lb.is perennial spring discharges from the base of the west wall of County Road Valley and then Bows through a 30-foot long spring branch to enter the channel of the stream which traverses the valley. Stupperich Spring is located. about 1,800 feet south of Pole 9. The flow rate of this spring was estimated at 30 gallons per minute on January 6, 1998.

Station 6. Main Creek Upstream of Srupperich Spring. Tius station was established to monitor County Road Valley at a point upstream of the muurh of lht! -,pring branch from Stupperich Spring.

Background Sampling

Background sampling was conducted prior to the introduction of any tracer dyes. Ac6vated carbon samplers (also called charcoal samplers) were placed a, all six of the sampling stations on January 6, 1998 and were collected from these stations on January 8, 1998. In addition, warer samples were collected at all six of the sampling stations on January 8, 1998. All samples were analyzed for the presence of rhodamine WT and eosine dyes. There was no detectable eosine or rhodamine WT dye in a.ny of the backgroWld samples. Furthermore, there was no reason to expect any extraneous dyes in the area. The background sampling demonstrated that there were no tracer dyes present in the study area prior to our dye introductions.

Dye Introductions

On January 8, 1 998 Tom Aley introduced Jye for Trnce 98-01 rhis trace involved the introduction of 0.1 pounds of eosine dye mixture dissolved in 0.7 quarts of water. The 0.1 pounds of eosine dye mixture is approximately 75% dye and 25% diluent. Eosine dye is also knov,rn as Acid Red 87; CI Number 45380 . The eosine dye mixture was introduced in a small stream channel within the sprayed corridor. The dye introduction point for Trace 98-01 was between Poles 4 and 5; the dye introduction point was about 35 feet south of Pole 4. There was no flow in the stream channel; the dye was introduced into the gravels wBJch typify the stream channels which cross ;i.nd run along the powerline corridor in which the herbicide spraying occurred. Eosine Jye for Trace 98-01 was introduced on January 8, 1998 at 5:45 PM .

On January 8, 1998 Tom Aley introduced dye for Trace 98-02. This trace involved the introduction of 0.25 pounds of rhodamine WT dye mixtu re . The rhodamine WT dye mixture is approximacely 20% dye and 80% diluting agent. Rhodarnine WT dye is also k...-1.own as Acid Red 388; there is no assigned CI Nwnber. The rhodamine WT dye mixture was introduced into the springbr::i.nch flow from Powerline Spring t ap int

about 10 feet downstream of the spring. The flow rate at the time of dye introduction was estimated at .30 gallons per minute. Rhodamine *WT* for Trace 98-02 was introduced on January 8, 1998 at 6:15 PM.

We spoke with Ms. Trudy Stupperich on January 8 prior to the dye introductions and gave her some vials for collecting daily water samples. We told her that these were for background sampling; we did not tell her that we were going to introduce the tracer dyes that evening. We used this approach to avoid creating a condition where someone might suggest that Mr. or Ms. Stupperich might have tampered with the study; furthermore, we believe this to be a good scientific approach. In addition, the dye introductions were made after dark when nobody was present to observe any of the dye introductions.

Relevance of the Tracer Dyes Used

The tracer dyes used in this study were rhodamine *WT* and eosine. Kanwar et al. (1990) report that, based on adsorption coefficients in the literature and field experiments, rhodamine *WT* dye is roughly 20 to 40 times more strongly adsorbed than the commonly used pesticides. Sabatini (1989) studied the sorption and transport of an-azine, alachlor, and fluorescent dyes in alluvial aquifer sands. He found that the mobility of the herbicides atrazine and alachlor was bracketed by fluorescein (which was more mobile than these two herbicides) and by rhodamine *WT* (which was less mobile than these two herbicides). Eosine is basically a fluorescein which has been brominated; its mobility in groundwater systems is similar to fluorescein. The tracer dyes used are thus highly relevant to characterizing the subsurface performance of herbicides. Furthermore, the quantities of the dyes used were very small compared to most groundwater tracing work.

Rhodamine *WT* has been used to study moisture uptake and translocation in plants (Donaldson and Robinson, 1971). Eosine was not studied by these authors, but has been used by other investigations to study moisture uptake and translocation in plants.

Sampling Results

All tables follow the text portion of this report. Table 1 presents analytical results from charcoal samplers; all of these samples were collected by the Ozark Underground Laboratory (OUL). Table 2 presents analytical results from water samples collected by the OUL.

Table 3 presents analytical results from water samples collected from Stupperich Spring by Trudy Stupperich. On January 8, 1998, we asked Ms. Stupperich to collect a water sample from her spring about once per day beginning January 9 until the supply of sample vials was exhausted. Each vial was stored in the refrigerator after collection. Tom and/or Cathy Aley would periodically visit the Stupperich home and retrieve the collected samples plus do other sampling as appropriate. We did not provide Mr. or Ms. Stupperich with any indication of the dates or times of our visits. We did not tell them that dyes had been introduced until after we had retrieved all samples which they

collected. All resulting data are fully credible; results for Stupperich Spring are consistent regardless of who made the water collection.

Procedures and criteria routinely followed by the Ozark Underground Laboratory (OUL) were followed throughout this groundwater tracing study. A copy of a document detailing these procedures and criteria is found in Appendix A.

All analytical graphs for charcoal samplers are included in Appendix 8. All analytical graphs for water samples are included in Appendix C.

Based upon results shown in Tables I, 2, and 3, the tracer dyes which were introduced for this study were recovered at the following sampling stations:

1. Eosine dye from Trace 98-01 was recovered from four of the six sampling stations. These were Station 2 (Powerline Spring); Station 4 (Bubbling Spring); Station 5 (Stupperich Spring); and Station 6 (Main Creek Upstream of Stupperich Spring). Eosine dye was present in both charcoal and water samples from all four of these stations.

2. Rhodamine WT dye from Trace 98-02 was recovered from three of the six sampling stations. These were Station 4 (Bubbling Spring); Station 5 (Stupperich Spring); and Station 6 (Main Creek Upstream of Stupperich Spring). Rhodamine WT dye was present in both charcoal and water samples from all three of these stations.

Quality Assurance

1. Sample H0835D was a duplicate charcoal sampler for sample H0835. Sample H0836D was a duplicate charcoal sampler for sample H0836. The mean difference between peak emission wavelengths for rhodamine WT in these samplers was 0.05 nanometers (run). The mean difference between peak emission wavelengths for eosine in these samplers was 0.0 nm. The mean Relative Percent Difference (RPD) for rhodamine WT dye concentrations was 28.5%. The mean RPD for eosine dye concentrations was 26.8%. These values are within the normal RPD range for analytical results for these dyes in charcoal samplers.

2. Sample H0873 was a water sample analyzed on January 26, 1998. This sample was re-analyzed twice on January 30, 1998 as samples H0873D and H0873R. Sample H0874 was a water sample analyzed on January 26, 1998. This sample was re-analyzed twice on January 30, 1998 as samples H0874D and H0874R. Samples were kept under refrigeration between January 26 and January 30; this was the approach used for storing samples which Ms. Stupperich collected and which we collected during this study. Data in Table 2 demonstrate that such storage does not have appreciable effect dye concentrations and emission wavelength peaks in the water samples. Based upon water samples analyzed on January 30, 1998, the mean difference between peak emission

concentrations was 16.7%. These values are within the normal RPO range for analytical results for these dyes in water samples.

It is the conclusion of the OUL that all data collected and all analytical data are fully credible and within the ranges of accuracy normally associated with groundwater tracing studies.

Conclusions

1. Groundwater traces 98-01 and 98-02 both involved the introduction of tracer dyes in the area where the powerline corridor was sprayed with herbicide. Both traces demonstrated that herbicides reaching the ground in this area were transported through the groundwater system and discharged from Stupperich Spring as well as from other springs in the area.

2. Travel times for the first arrival of tracer dyes through the groundwater system were very rapid. The first collection of samples by the OUL was made two days after dyes were introduced for the two traces. Tracer dyes were detected in both charcoal and water samples at Stupperich Spring and at all other positive dye recovery stations within two days of dye introduction. A water sample collected at Stupperich Spring by Ms. Stupperich on January 9 at 1330 hours contained both eosine and rhodamine WT dyes. This water sample was collected less than 20 hours after dye introduction. Furthermore, this water sample contained more of both of the tracer dyes than any other water sample from this sampling station. The straight-line travel distance for Trace 98-01 from the point of dye introduction to Stupperich Spring was about 2,900 feet; the figure for Trace 98-02 was about 2,700 feet.

3. On January 6, 1998 the estimated flow rate of Bubbling Spring was 60 gallons per minute. The spring was dry at the time of our visit on January 21. Powerline Spring also showed appreciable flow rate variations during the study period, but it did not cease flowing during the study period. However, the absence of watercress at this spring indicates that its flow is intermittent. In contrast, flow rates at Stupperich Spring during the study period remained relatively constant at about 30 gallons per minute. These flow patterns indicate a karst groundwater system which contains appreciable water storage: springs such as Bubbling Spring discharge water only during periods when the groundwater system is essentially full of water. Much of the water storage is within the epikarstic zone, which is a hydrologically complex network of dissolved out openings in the limestone bedrock. Stupperich Spring is a perennial drainage point for this karst groundwater system. Karst groundwater systems with appreciable groundwater storage and periodic discharges from "overflow" spring systems such as Bubbling Spring and Powerline Spring can retain residual pollutants such as herbicides for long periods of time (commonly many years) and release them as periodic pulses. Such pulses may be associated with either higher than average or lower than average groundwater discharge rates. Furthermore, organic chemical degradation rates in karst groundwater systems are routinely much slower than in soils.

4. There was abundant evidence in County Road Valley to demonstrate that herbicides sprayed in the powerline corridor would probably enter the karst groundwater system and move off-site. This evidence included: A) bare-rock exposures on the area that was sprayed, B) a small sinkhole about 20 feet east of the powerline corridor near Pole 6, C) the presence of Powerline Spring within the spray corridor, and D) the absence of continuous flow in County Road Valley upstream of Stupperich Spring under most conditions. Furthermore, the greenhouse operation at the Stupperich Spring was located about 1,800 feet south of the spray corridor and in the same valley in which the spraying was conducted. There are signs in the area directing one to the greenhouse, and it is readily visible from the county road that passes through the area where the herbicide was used. All greenhouses need water supplies; an investigation prior to herbicide application would have indicated that the water supply was a spring which almost certainly would receive recharge waters from the powerline corridor that was ultimately sprayed.

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Certification

I certify that this study and report were conducted by me or under my direct supervision, and that I am a Professional Hydrogeologist certified by the American Institute of Hydrology. Furthermore, I am a Certified Forester, certified by the Society of American Foresters.

Thomas Aley. PHO \ 79

Table 1. Results for ch;irco.il samples analyzed for the presence of rhodamine WT and cosine l.eyes. (Samples collected by OUL)								
OUL Lah #	Station //	Station Name	Date/Time Placed 1998	Date/Time Recovered 1998	Rhullaminc WT Results		Eosinc Rcsulls	
					Peak (nm)	Cone. (11111J)	Peak (nm)	Cone. (1111b)
HOG91	I	Rockledge Spring	1-6 1300	1-8 1720	ND		ND	
H0704	I	Rockledge Spring	1-8 1720	1-11 1700	ND		ND	
1{0839	I	Rockledge Spring	1-10 1700	1-21 161 I	ND		ND	
HU692	2	Powerline Spring	1-6 1250	1-8 1725	ND		ND	
H0705	2	Powerline Spring	1-8 1725	1-10 1705	ND		539.1	3930
H0841	2	Powerline Spring	1-10 1705	1-21 1615	ND		539.1	-174
110C,93	3	West Side Spring	1-6 1320	1-8 1735	ND		ND	
H0706	3	West Side Spring	1-10 1735	1-10 1720	ND		ND	
110837	J	West Side Spring	1-10 1720	1-21 1605	ND		ND	
11069'1	J	Bubbling Spring	1-6 1310	1-8 17 0	ND		ND	
H0707	4	Bubbling Spring	1-8 1740	1-10 1725	562.1	9450	539.6	831
H0831I	4	Bubbling Spring	1-10 1725	1-21 1607	563.0	124	539.0	21U
HU695	5	Stupperich Spring	1-6 1203	1-8 1745	ND		ND	
110708	5	Stupperich Spring	1-8 1800	1-10 1745	563.8	371	539.2	37.4
110835	5	Stupperich Spring	1-10 1745	1-21 1544	563.1	142	539.2	10.7
1-10835D	J	Stupperich Spring	1-10 1745	1-21 1544	563.1	110	539.2	23.6
H0696	6	Main Cr. u/s of Stupperich Spr.	1-6 1210	1-8 1805	ND		ND	
110709	6	Main Cr. u/s of Stupperich Spr.	1-8 1805	1-10 1750	564.3	906	539.0	83.0
HO&J6	6	Main Cr. u/s of Stupperich Spr.	1-10 1750	1-21 1548	563.0	259	539.1	55.9
H08J,D	6	Main Cr. u/s of Stupperich Spr.	1-10 1750	1-21 1548	562.1	189	539.4	42.4

ND = No Dye Detected

OUL Lab #	Station #	Station Name	Date/Time Collected 1991	Rhodamine WT Results		Eosine Results	
				Peak (nm)	Cone. (ppb)	Peak (nm)	Cone. (1>pb)
IH>697	I	Rockledge Spring	1-8 1720	ND		ND	
1-10710	I	Rockledge Spring	1-10 1700	ND		ND	
H0922	I	Rockledge Spring	1-21 1611	ND		ND	
H0698	I	Powellville Spring	1-8 1725	ND		ND	
H0711	2	Powerline Spring	1-10 1705	ND		532.9	2.63
H0875	2	Powerline Spring	1-21 1615	ND		532.0	0.380
H0699	I	Westside Spring	1-8 1735	ND		ND	
H0712	J	Westside Spring	1-10 1720	ND		ND	
11092))	Westside Spring	1-21 1605	ND		ND	
JW701	4	Bubbling Spring	1-8 1740	ND		ND	
H0713	4	Bubbling Spring	1-10 1725	570.6	4.00	533.0	11.2
...	4	Bubbling Spring	1-21	Spring dry, No Sample			
H0702	5	Stupperich Spring	1-8 1800	ND		ND	
110714	5	Stupperich Spring	1-10 1745	569.8	0.720	532.2	0.220
110873	S	Stupperich Spring	1-21 1544	568.8	0.048	531.6	0.027
H087:ID	5	Stupperich Spring	1-21 1544	569.2	0.050	530.1	0.019
I01n3R	j	Stupperich Spring	1-21 1544	569.2	0.046	532.4	0.023
110701	6	Main Cr. u/s of Stupperich Spring	1-8 1805	ND		ND	
H0715	6	Main Cr. u/s of Stupperich Spring	1-10 1750	570.4	0.854	532.5	0.259
H0715	6	Main Cr. u/s of Stupperich Spring	1-21 1548	569.4	0.081	532.8	0.010
H0874D	6	Main Cr. u/s of Stupperich Spring	1-21 1548	570.4	0.081	531.0	0.029
H0874R	6	Main Cr. u/s of Stupperich Spring	1-21 1541	569.2	0.077	530.4	0.025

ND = NoDye Detected

Table 3. Results for water samples analyzed for the presence of rhodamine WT and eosine dyes. (Samples collected by Mrs. Stupperich)

OIL Lab #	Station #	Station Name	Date/Time Collected 1998	Rhodamine WT Results		Eosine Results	
				Peak (nm)	Conc. (ppm)	Peak (nm)	Conc. (ppm)
H0716	5	Stupperich Spring	1-9 1330	570.5	2.57	531.0	0.027
H0812	5	Stupperich Spring	1-11 1000	570.2	0.522	511.4	0.118
H0143	5	Stupperich Spring	1-12 1100	570.1	0.333	532.0	0.094
H044	5	Stupperich Spring	1-11 1000	570.2	0.236	532.5	0.076
H10845	5	Stupperich Spring	1-14 1200	569.5	0.160	531.8	0.056
H0846	5	Stupperich Spring	1-15 0930	570.0	0.142	531.6	0.040
1-10847	5	Stupperich Spring	1-16 0900	570.8	0.100	530.9	0.039
110848	5	Stupperich Spring	1-17 0800	568.8	0.086	532.4	0.034
H0849	5	Stupperich Spring	1-18 0900	570.2	0.089	531.1	0.030
1-10150	5	Stupperich Spring	1-19 0900	570.4	0.081	530.8	0.031
110851	5	Stupperich Spring	1-20 1100	569.2	0.056	532.4	0.019
H0852	5	Stupperich Spring	1-21 1100	568.4	0.046	532.0	0.020

